

FORT WAYNE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES: APRIL 22-, 2024

Location: Omni Room, Citizens Square, 200 East Berry Street

This meeting was digitally recorded for future reference.

Called to Order: Tyler Bowers, Chairperson, at 5:30 PM

I. ROLL CALL:

Members: Beth Walker, Jessica Franke, Emily Hower, Tyler Bowers, Tony Borton, Sam Eagleson, Moises Uribe

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Creager Smith, Nate Lefever, Sherese Fortriede

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting: March 26, 2024

Motion:

A motion was made by Beth Walker to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by Sam Eagleson.

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Case Nos.: HPC 2-26-24-1 and HPC 2-26-24-2:

4 Life Construction for 4 Life Investments, owner. 912 W. Jefferson and 914 W. Jefferson, Lot 636 Ex Frl W 25.9' Hannas Addition (912 W. Jefferson) and Frl W 25.9' Lot 636 Hannas Addition (914 W. Jefferson). West Central Historic District.

Install 30-34, 400-watt, black-on-black solar panels discreetly on the roof's east and west faces at 912 W. Jefferson (HPC 2-26-24-1).

Install 50-55, 400-watt, black-on-black solar panels on the roof's east and west faces at 914 W. Jefferson (HPC 2-26-24-2).

Staff:

Nate Lefever summarized the application, findings of fact and presented the revised case information to the Commission.

Representatives Present: Alexandra Helms, project manager and Mark Braogh, installation contractor.

Discussion: Tyler asked if there has been any discussion with the neighbor for the removal of the tree on the neighboring parcel. The applicant responded that there has been several letters sent and that basement work has started at the property.

Mark Brough explained his design process that he planned for the project and why full coverage was proposed for uniformity. He also showed photographic samples of what skirting could be used to bring uniformity to the project. He also stated that he would be happy to comply to any new guidelines.

Beth Walker asked Mr, Brough what would happen if the tree was not removed? He stated that if the tree was not removed, there could be fewer panels installed due to lack of sunlight.

Jessica Franke asked if a considerable setback would be a significant enough change to allow for a new application to submitted. Staff confirmed.

Motion:

A motion to open discussion and to deny the application(s) per staff recommendations was made by Tony Borton and seconded by Emly Hower.

Vote: The Commission voted unanimously deny the application for a Certificate(s) of Appropriateness per staff recommendations and provided findings of fact.

IV. CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS:

Case No: HPC 4-22-24-1: The Morriscal Co. Inc. for Sam Walton, owner. 1404 Swinney Ct. Sp E 70ft Of 164ft S Of N 150 Nw Cor Garden & Jefferson. West Central Historic District. Demolition of existing garage and garden shed. Construction of new three car garage.

Representatives Present:

Staff:

Creager Smith summarized the application and presented information to the Commission.

Motion:

A motion to open discussion and to approve the application per staff recommendations was made by Emily Hower and seconded by Beth Walker.

Discussion: There was a discussion between the Commission and the applicant/owner to clarify paint colors.

The applicant addressed a question made by Emily Hower to understand the garage setbacks for ease of entry and exit from the new garage.

Beth Walker asked about the age of the half glass door and if it is to be used on the existing garage to be used on the new garage. This detail was noted in the staff report and confirmed by the applicant.

Vote: The Commission voted unanimously approve the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Case No: HPC 4-22-24-1: The Morriscal Co. Inc. for Sam Walton, owner. 1404 Swinney Ct. Sp E 70ft Of 164ft S Of N 150 Nw Cor Garden & Jefferson. West Central Historic District. Demolition of existing garage and garden shed. Construction of new three car garage.

Staff:

Creager Smith summarized the application and presented information to the Commission.

Motion:

A motion to open discussion and to approve the application per staff recommendations was made by Emily Hower and seconded by Jessica Franke.

Vote: The Commission voted unanimously approve the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Case No: HPC 4-22-24-2: Hemphill Smith Arts Foundation Care of Mark Paul Smith and Max Meyer. Triangle shaped parcel of land bound by Garden St., Swinney Park Place, and Jefferson Blvd. owned by the City of Fort Wayne Board of Public Works. West Central Historic District. Installation of a metal sculpture created by Cary Shafer is an interpretation of an original painting by Jo Ellen Hemphill Smith. Installation of sidewalks and municipal lighting, and installation of West Central limestone signage facing west.

Staff:

Nate Lefever summarized the application and presented information to the Commission.

Representatives Present: Max Meyer, Cary Schafer, Mark Smith

Discussion:

Cary Schafer gave an explanation as to what the current envisioning of the height of the artwork.

Max Meyer gave some sightline shots from 30 ft of height, 25 ft. and 20 ft. to the presentation.

Tony Borton asked if the artwork will be two sided and color coordinated. Cary Schafer elaborated on this.

Max Meyer explained the concrete signage to act as a stop gap for trucks from any potential damage.

Cary added that the artwork and signage will be complimentary.

Mark Smith added that this will act as an art entryway to a new entryway into a historic and important busy entryway into the City.

Max Meyer added that his experience at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art and paint knowledge means the project's paint should last about 25 years.

The applicants would like this to be part of the trail that leads from West Central to Electric Works.

Max Meyer asked that the Commission give feedback and for questions.

Tyler Bowers asked for clarification on lighting placement and font for the signage.

Cary Schafer assured that the signage would be fitting of the neighborhood character.

Beth Walker gave an explanation for the deferral but agrees that this is an exciting project. This was seconded by Tony Borton.

Motion:

A motion to open discussion and to defer the application per staff recommendations was made by Tony Borton and seconded by Jessica Franke.

Discussion:

Vote: The Commission voted unanimously defer the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Staff Report: March, 2024

Motion:

A motion to approve the March, 2024 Staff Report was made by Beth Walker and seconded by Emily Hower.

Metal Roof Policy Addendum

Creager Smith explained the proposed policy addendum.

Charlotte Weybright requested that the West Central Preservation Group receives a copy of the policy

A motion to approve the Metal Roof Policy as presented was made by Sam Eagleson and seconded by Tony Borton.

Vote: The Commission voted unanimously to approve the policy.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.