MINUTES OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION May 21, 2018

The regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was called to order by Chairman James Hartshorne at 5:22 p.m. at 118 W Cook Avenue.

Members present: Chairman James Hartshorne, Pam Hume, Mike Kollman, and Amy McEwan.

Members absent: Katherine Hamilton-Smith.

A quorum was established.

Village Staff present: John P. Spoden, Community Development Director; and Christopher Sandine, Associate Planner.

Commissioner McEwan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kollman, to approve the March 19, 2018, Historic Preservation Commission meeting minutes, as written.

Motion carried 4 - 0.

Old Business:

None.

New Business

ARC 18-01 Tom Bachmann, Authorized Agent for Robert Tagliaferro 514 N. Milwaukee Avenue

Request is for approval of new awnings and signage.

Mr. Tom Bachmann, representative for Edie's Boutique, presented the proposed awnings and signage for 514 N. Milwaukee Avenue. Mr. Bachmann stated the scope of work is to recover the existing awning that is already on the building. Mr. Bachmann stated this will be the seventh location for Edie's Boutique, with several other locations in the Chicagoland area. Mr. Bachmann stated the formula for the store is about 2,500 SF but this location has about 1,700 SF. Mr. Bachmann stated the blue, brown, and orange colors are consistent with the other locations and the brand. Mr. Bachmann stated the marigolds are the logo for the company. Mr. Bachmann stated retail nowadays is about getting a consistent experience and creating fond memories about purchasing an item. Mr. Bachmann stated the products in store are moderately priced and changing every day, which is unique to this market. Mr. Bachmann stated the existing awning is a roll-out awning that will be changed to a static, aluminum framed awning. Mr. Bachmann noted there are several other awnings on neighboring buildings that have multiple colors and designs.

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Chairman Hartshorne questioned if the awning will match the neighboring tenants awning. Mr. Bachmann stated the length of the awnings will be the same. Commissioner McEwan questioned if the articulation will be the same. Mr. Bachmann confirmed and noted that he would prefer to paint the building a different color but the owner likes the red paint.

Commissioner Hume stated several other awnings along Milwaukee Avenue appear to only have their name and address on the valence, and not a logo. Commissioner Hume questioned the possibility of placing a projecting sign onto a column. Mr. Bachmann stated the owner does not want to cover any of the architectural features. Commissioner Hume stated the marigolds across the front of the valance looks to be too much and recommended a solid awning.

Commissioner McEwan stated the color of the awnings should not detract from the overall historical character of the building. Mr. Bachmann stated he regrets giving in to Naperville and their design criteria.

Commissioner Kollman stated he loves the type of store coming into this space, although he has concerns over the changes from one awning to the neighboring awnings. Commissioner Kollman stated the design initially seemed loud and fears the design is too busy with the logos. Commissioner Kollman questioned if there is a way to keep the main awning while changing the design. Chairman Hartshorne stated he is concerned the awning does not fit in with the surroundings.

Commissioner McEwan stated the main task is to determine if the awning and signage changes the character of the building and the downtown. Commissioner McEwan noted that awnings are not permanent and are changed as new tenants come into a space. Commissioner McEwan stated she has no problem with the proposal.

Mr. Bachmann stated the buildings on either side of his space have framed awnings with stripes.

Commissioner McEwan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kollman, to recommend the Village Board of Trustees approve the application for a new awnings and signage at 514 N. Milwaukee, subject to the following conditions: 1) the "Edie" is on the sides of the awning valance and the marigolds are on the front of the valance.

Motion carried 3 - 0, with Commissioner Hume abstaining.

COMMUNICATIONS AND DISCUSSION

Historic District Signage

Commissioner Hume and Mr. Fred Kestler, representative with MainStreet Libertyville, discussed the possibility of working with the Village on installing wayfinding signs in Downtown Libertyville. Commissioner Hume stated the Commission and MainStreet is proud of the Historic District and signage would be a great way to commemorate and recognize this achievement. Commissioner Kollman questioned if there are still Heritage Area signs.

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Commissioner McEwan stated there are a few Heritage Area signs still installed. Commissioner Hume stated the partnership could incorporate wayfinding signs and Historic District signs. Commissioner Kollman questioned if the next steps would be to find key spots and designs for the wayfinding signs. Mr. Kestler stated MainStreet Libertyville is looking for capital projects, which could include installing these signs. Commissioner McEwan recommended placing a sign near the parking structures or train depot. Commissioner Kollman recommended creating a wayfinding master plan for the area.

With no further discussion, Commissioner Kollman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McEwan, to adjourn the Historic Preservation Commission.

Motion carried 4 - 0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.