

MINUTES

Easton Historic District Commission Easton, Maryland

October 14, 2013

Members Present: Kurt Herrmann, Chairman, Adam Theeke, Lena Gill, Robert Arnouts, and George Koste.

Members Absent: Kevin Gibson and Mark Beck.

Mr. Herrmann called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Opening statement given by the Chairman.

The Commission operates under the authority granted to it by section 701 of the Town of Easton Zoning Ordinance. And, I hereby open the record of the public hearing on cases heard this evening and, in accordance with our legal responsibilities, I enter into the record the following items: notice of the public hearing, adopted design guidelines, resumes of commission members and any consultants used by the Commission, records of any previous meetings, and any letters to the Commission on a case.

*The decisions of the HDC may be appealed within 30 days of approval.
General Order of the hearing of Applications*

- *Introduction of the application by the presiding officer*
- *Presentation by the applicant or his agent*
- *Questions by members of the Commission*
- *Public comment*
- *Petitioner rebuttal*
- *Discussion and consideration by the Commission*
- *Decision motion and statement of Basis for Decision*

The applicant may withdraw the application at any time up to when the vote is taken. A Certificate of Appropriateness shall lapse upon the expiration of the corresponding Building Permit. For applications that require a building permit but for which none is issued, this Certificate of Appropriateness shall lapse six (6) months after its issuance. In the event a building permit is not required, the Certificate of Appropriateness shall lapse six (6) months from its issuance if substantial work is not underway. For good cause shown, this period may be extended by the Commission.

I will now entertain a motion to accept the agenda for this evening.

The agenda for the October 14, 2013 meeting was approved as amended. The Commission voted to approve the minutes from the September 23rd meeting as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

12-2012 1 E. Dover Street Mr. Valliant, Owner.

Mr. Valliant is before the Commission with a modification of his previous approval for exterior lighting. Due to the cost of the previous lights Mr. Valliant is proposing a bullet style light fixture in bronze. The Commission voted 4-0 to approve the new lighting fixture as presented and on RAB cut sheet, page 59.

NEW BUSINESS:

79-2013 311 A. Aurora Street Peter Howell, Owner.

Mr. Howell is before the Commission with a request to renovate the existing front porch. They would like re-place the existing porch floor with tongue and groove mahogany decking, replace three (3) existing 8" x 8" square columns, which are rotten with new 8" x 8" columns (painted white) like and same materials, replace three (3) existing railings, which are not up to code with new cedar railing (painted white) that will be 36" from the floor and be code compliant, replace existing water damaged wooden bead board porch ceiling in-kind (painted white) and install a 3-speed overhead fan and light fixture in center of porch. Motion of Mr. Theeke seconded by Mrs. Gill the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the application as submitted. *The Commission asked the applicant to provide them with a cut sheet on the fan for the file.*

The application meets the Guidelines on Page 58 R1.

73-2013 23 & 25 Goldsborough Street Bill Hall, Owner.

Mr. Hall is before the Commission with a request for a new sign. Mr. Hall explained they are proposing an 18" x 48" two-sided wooden sign which will be painted blue with copper color lettering. Sign is to be secured to brick building with an "L" bracket. Motion by Mrs. Gill seconded by Mr. Koste the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the sign with a modification that the copper lettering be slightly larger.

The application meets the Guidelines on Page 68, R1 & R2.

74-2013 23 N. Harrison Street Jeff Morton, Sign Contractor.

Jeff Morton on behalf of Nancy Trippe was before the Commission with a request for two new signs. Proposed sign # 1 is a hanging sign 27" x 42" placed on existing bracket. Proposed sign #2 is a wall sign 10" x 65". The application also included a request to replace the existing entry door with a new door. The Commission was unclear as to where the wall sign would be placed on the building. The Commission also needed additional information on the proposed door and a picture of the existing door. Upon motion by Mr. Theeke seconded by Mrs. Gill the Commission voted 4-0 to approve the hanging sign as permitted and voted to Table the wall sign and door request until more information is provided to the Commission.

The wall sign meets the Guidelines on Page 68, R1.

77-2013 14 N. Washington Street Steven Oristian and Beau Oristian.

The applicants are requesting a new wall sign on the building. Proposed sign will be wooden painted yellow with black letters. Sign will be centered over the existing doorway. Motion by Mr. Theeke seconded by Mrs. Gill to approve the colored sign rendering as submitted at the meeting.

The application meets the Guidelines on Page 66, R3, R 1 &2.

75-2013 4 South Street Keith Davis, Contractor.

Mr. Davis is before the Commission on behalf of the owner for a request to remove an existing chimney that is in disrepair and rebuild it to match existing

brick chimney. He is also asking to remove the central chimney that is unused, non functional and in disrepair. The Commission stated that chimneys are aesthetically important on historic houses and they are not in favor of removing the chimney.

Upon motion by Mr. Theeke seconded by Mr. Arnouts the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the application as modified to rebuild the functional chimney with like materials and to re-build the central chimney as a facsimile of the rear chimney but with lighter materials and, if the applicant so chooses. With a chimney structure throughout the house.

The application meets the Guidelines.

76-2013 210 August Street Jeff Morton, Morton Signs.

Mr. Morton is requesting a new single sided sign to hang from existing screwways on the porch. Proposed sign will be light beige with black vinyl letters. Upon motion of Mrs. Gill seconded by Mr. Arnouts the Commission voted 5-0 to approve the sign as submitted.

The application meets the Guidelines on Page 68, R2.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. by motion of Mr. Herrmann seconded by Mr. Theeke.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacie S. Rice