

VILLAGE OF PITTSFORD
HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 5:30 pm

PRESENT:

Sub-Chairperson: Daniel Olson
Members: Virginia Searl
Christopher Dabroski
Carolina Torres
Absent: Jeffery Pollock
Village Attorney: Jeff Turner
Building Inspector: Steve Lauth
Deputy Clerk: Alexandria Torres Vaughn

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Member Dabroski and seconded by Member Searl to open the HPB Meeting for May 16, 2024.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Board members indicated that they had no conflicts of interest to disclose.

• **34 Church Street- ADDITION**

Present: Caitlin and Alec Fisher (owners)

The application was submitted, date-stamped 04.17.24, and reviewed by the Building Inspector on 05.07.24. The owners present to the Board a plan to extend the kitchen area by incorporating the existing deck and improving the home's facade by squaring off an unfinished foundation portion. The proposed design includes using an existing window as part of the addition and matching the size of new windows to existing ones, such as double-hung lifestyle windows.

Conditions: All the new windows will match the existing design and materials, specifically wood windows and patterns.

Finding of Fact: Maintains the character of the property while allowing for proposed improvements.

Motion by Member Olson and seconded by Member Dabroski to approve the application as presented.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

• **1 Gaskin Place – GARAGE DOOR**

Present: Howard & Debbie Henderson (owners)

The application was submitted, date-stamped on 05.03.24, and reviewed by the Building Inspector on 05.07.24. The homeowner is applying for a garage door replacement after a poor decision five years

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ago. They prefer a carriage-type door, which complements their property's architecture and has historical value.

Findings of Fact: The new garage door would have no negative impact on the historical resources of the village; found to be more fitting and appropriate for the house's historical character; the garage door is considered an improvement to the property, enhancing both its functionality and curb appeal.

Motion by Member Dabroski and seconded by Member Searl to approve the application as presented.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

• **25 Eastview Terrace – ADDITION**

Present: Robert Vitek (owner)

The application was submitted, date-stamped on 05.06.24, and reviewed by the Building Inspector on 05.07.24. The homeowner presents a plan to modify their property, which includes demolishing an addition made in the 1990s to their house, initially built in 1940. The project involves removing the 1990s addition and constructing a one-story addition with a 10-foot, six-story connector to separate it from the original house. There are also plans to add a screened-off area and a new storm door.

Concerns were raised about the demolition and the massing of the new addition, suggesting it should be subservient to the original structure. The homeowner argued that the 1990s addition detracted from the house's aesthetic, and removing it was the best option.

The Board will table the discussion, recommending a site visit to better understand the project's impact.

Motion by Member Olson and seconded by Member Dabroski to table the application, with a scheduled onsite for June 4, 2024, at 5:30 pm.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

• **59 State Street – RETAINING WALL**

Present: Laurence Hickey (owner)

The application was submitted, date-stamped on 04.25.24, and reviewed by the Building Inspector on 05.07.24. It proposes replacing an existing retaining wall adjacent to the Erie Canal Trail to address its state of disrepair. The proposed new wall will be constructed as a rockery-type gravity retaining wall using guillotine boulders sourced from Syphon. The goal is to complete the project before the summer to minimize disruption to canal trail users.

An environmental impact assessment indicated no negative impact on archaeological and historical resources. The Canal Corporation's approval is pending, and Kevin Karen is coordinating the permit process.

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Findings of Fact: Compatibility with the historic area adjacent to Erie Canal Trail; assessment indicates minimal to no adverse environmental impact; replacement of existing retaining wall for property safety and structural integrity; aesthetic improvement through replacement of aging structure with new stone wall; compliance with Village of Pittsburgh Historic Preservation Board's guidelines; ongoing coordination with Canal Corporation for necessary permits.

Member Olson motioned, seconded by Member Torres, to approve the application as submitted.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

• **4 Courtenay Circle – WINDOWS**

Present: Megara & Ryan Nearing (owners)

The application was submitted, date-stamped on 05.06.24, and reviewed by the Building Inspector on 05.07.24. The decision for the property at 4 Courtenay Circle was to approve the application as presented. The application was for replacing six original windows with new ones that match the previously installed windows in 2021. The new windows are Marvin Elevate products, known for their wood interior and exterior, and were chosen for their functionality, insulation, and aesthetic fit with the property's historic character.

Motion by Member Olson and seconded by Member Torres to approve the application as presented.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

• **43 State Street – DOOR LIGHT**

Present: Catherine S. Glenning (owner)

The application was submitted, date-stamped on 05.04.24, and reviewed by the Building Inspector on 05.08.24. The owner applies for installing a light on the front of the property for safety reasons. They have considered placing the light either above the door or on the left side, with a preference for above the door if feasible. The Board was open to either location, emphasizing the importance of the light's placement on the door and the house's exterior aesthetics, considering the light's height and alignment with the house's architectural features.

Conditions: The placement of the light should be centered and aesthetically fitting, either directly above the door or on the side, depending on practicality and the contractor's advice.

Findings of Fact: Enhances usability and safety without permanent damage; complies with village's exterior modifications guidelines; enhances property safety and security; minimizes impact on historic fabric, preserving integrity.

Member Dabroski motioned, seconded by Member Olson, to approve the application with conditions.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

MINUTES

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Motion by Member Olson and seconded by Member Dabroski to approve the meeting minutes for February 26, 2024.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

Motion by Member Olson and seconded by Member Dabroski to approve the meeting minutes for April 15, 2024.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

Motion by Member Olson and seconded by Member Dabroski to approve the meeting minutes for April 29, 2024.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

MEMBER ITEMS

Motion by Member Searl and seconded by Member Dabroski to close the HPB Meeting for May 16, 2024.

Vote: Olson – yes; Searl – yes; Dabroski – yes; Torres – yes; *Motion Passes.*

Alexandria Torres Vaughn, Deputy Clerk

Further detailed information about this specific meeting is available on the website.