

**VILLAGE OF PITTSFORD
Historic Preservation Board
Monday July 13, 2020 at 6:00 pm**

PRESENT:

Members: William McBride
Lisa Cove
Ken Morrow
Mark Harrington
Virginia Searl

Village Attorney: Jeff Turner
Village Clerk: Dorothea Ciccarelli
Recording Secretary: Linda Habeeb

Member McBride called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Mr. McBride read the following statement:

“Pursuant to Governor Cuomo’s recent Executive Orders 202.1, and due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Village Hall is closed to the public during official meetings. The members of the HPB and the applicants for this meeting will participate in the HPB meeting from their homes for this meeting. This HPB meeting will be made available to the public for viewing through videoconferencing link if they so choose, which is identified on the Village website.”

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: No board members had any conflicts of interest to declare.

**Robyn Lasser, 7 Schoen Place, Sign
Present:** Robin Lasser, Business owner

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/1/20.

Discussion: The applicant stated that she is proposing installing a sign above the window on the building located at 7 Schoen Place. She stated that the sign is a wood grain with raised white wooden lettering and a white border. Board members asked about the lettering for the sign, and the applicant explained that the letters will be raised approximately a quarter of an inch off the surface. Member Cove stated that the sign should be mounted so that the illumination of the sign is centered on the sign.

Motion: Member Cove made a *motion*, seconded by Member McBride, to approve the application, as submitted, with the condition that the letters be raised approximately a quarter of an inch above the surface.

Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.

Brooke Fossey, 67 State Street, Fence

Present: Brooke Fossey, Homeowner

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/16/20.

Discussion: The applicant stated that she is proposing installing a wood privacy fence connecting an existing fence to the rear of the garage. She is also proposing a wooden six-foot fence along the side yard for 54 feet. Member Searl pointed out that if each section of fence is six-foot high, the fence must step down as the grade changes.

Member Cove made a *motion*, seconded by Member Searl, to approve the application for installation of fencing at 67 State Street, as submitted.

Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.

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**Michael Newcomb, 21 Schoen Place, Windows**

**Present:** Michael Newcomb, Owner

**Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/17/20.**

**Discussion:** The applicant stated that he is proposing installing new windows on the rear façade of the building located at 21 Schoen Place. He submitted documentation and photographs describing the dimensions and locations for the windows. He explained that he revised his previous application to add some framing between the windows. The dimensions of the windows have also been increased from 23 inches to 29 inches. The windows are the same material and same brand as the existing windows in the building.

Member Searl explained that this is a utilitarian building, and the building is substantially changed from its original construction. The wing on the east side is proportionally appropriate because it's an addition and it's smaller, and it clearly identifies it as an addition, and it's important to retain those relative proportions. The main block of the building is larger and taller. The existing windows on the second floor only of that building are taller than they are wide. In the longer, lower wing that's off to the east, the wing itself is longer than it is tall. She stated her opinion that the windows are appropriately sized, and, at this point, with the addition of the mullions in between, are referencing a traditional window and are appropriate. This application is for the rear of the building on the north side, and on the north side, for energy conservation reasons, people want to reduce the window size to reduce the heating load in the winter on the building. The windows that the applicant is proposing are a six-light window, which does reference back to the tall windows on the second floor of the main building, which are 6-over-6, double hung windows.

Member McBride stated that there are examples of one-story, utilitarian buildings in the Village on Main Street, the backs of which have much smaller windows similar to this,

whereas, the front of the building might have a large open window, but, the back of the buildings, in a couple of cases, have windows this size.

Member Cove made a *motion*, seconded by Member Harrington to approve the application for installation of windows at 21 Schoen Place, as submitted.

**Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.**

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Barry Lawrenz, 9 Wood Street, Fence

Present: Barry Lawrenz, Homeowner

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/29/20.

Discussion: The applicant stated that he is proposing privacy fencing on the rear of the house encompassing three sides. The southeast side will be a 40-foot, 6-foot-tall shadow-box style fence, that will run on the southeast line between the house and the neighbor's on his property line. The fence will come across the end of the driveway, and then back into the corner of the house, with a gate. On the nearest property line, there will be a 16-foot section that extends to the neighbor's rear chain-link fence. On the southwest corner, there will be another section of fencing that's 12 feet from the corner of the house to the property line, with a gate in the middle. The fencing is all 6 feet, 8 feet sections, finished on both sides in a natural matte and painted.

Member Cove made a *motion*, seconded by Member McBride, to approve an application for fencing at the property of 9 Wood Street, as submitted.

Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.

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**Gaetano Abbate, 61 W. Jefferson Rd ~ Door**

**Present:** Gaetano Abbate, Contractor

**Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/29/20.**

**Discussion:** Member McBride explained that the applicant appeared before the Board at the March HPB meeting proposing to replace the wood front doors on the house with fiberglass doors with windows. The HPB denied the application because the front doors are a distinguishing architectural feature of the house, which should be replaced in-kind.

Mr. Abbate stated that they are returning before the board seeking approval again for the front door with windows. He further explained that the house has been renovated four times since its existence, and he submitted pictures of the original house, along with a sworn affidavit from a previous owner stating that the original front door had glass in it.

Member Searl stated that the HPB should look at the building as it exists now, and it should not necessarily have to go back to the doors that originally had glass. She further noted that many homes in the Village of Pittsford have glass doors, which doors should be appropriate for the age and style of the house. The style of the house now, after its multiple renovations, is obviously post-war. It would be more appropriate and more in keeping with the house as it is now to have doors with glass that more closely reflect the style of the door that's there now.

Chairperson McBride stated that this application will be tabled, and the applicant will do some research on the era of the house and submit some options of styles of doors for the Board to review.

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Adam & Renee Stetzer, 34 Monroe Avenue, Dock

Present: Adam & Renee Stetzer, Homeowners

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/16/20.

Discussion: The applicants stated that they are proposing a 14-foot residential dock with stairs, made of pressure-treated wood, and in compliance with the Canal Corporation Guidelines and constructed according to Building Code. They stated that they submitted their application a month ago, with a joint application to the DEC, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Member Searl asked if the Canal Corporation has a requirement for the depth of the pier. The applicants stated that the depth of the pier is 42 inches. Member Cove questioned whether the dock will all be made of wood. The applicants stated that the dock will be all pressure-treated wood. Member McBride questioned whether the height of the railings conform to Code, and the applicants stated that the height of the railings is compliant with Code. The Building Inspector stated that the railings have to be a minimum of 36 inches in order to accommodate the barrier requirement, in case there is a 30-inch drop or more on a step to the ground.

Member Cove made a ***motion***, seconded by Member McBride, to approve the application for a dock made by Adam and Renee Stetzer for the canalside property located at 34 Monroe Avenue, with the following conditions: (1) the railing will have a 2 x 4 cap, and (2) there will be no ornate caps or finials on the 6 x 6, and the edges will be beveled.

Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.

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**Pierre Heroux, 7 Schoen Place ~ Stairs**

**Present:** Pierre Heroux, Business owner

**Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 06/18/20.**

**Discussion:** The applicant stated that he is proposing installing a staircase at the end of the existing porch at 7 Schoen Place. He explained that the purpose is to provide one-directional traffic flow at the restaurant, as required by the COVID-19 requirement. The stairs will allow customers to egress the building on the northwest side of the porch.

Member Cove questioned the applicant as to the reason that the proposed railing for the new stairs does not match the railing on the other existing stairs on the business. Mr. Heroux stated that the existing railing on the building is basically the same as the proposed railing. Member Cove noted that the two railings are different styles. Mr. Heroux explained that the proposed railing will match the railing on the adjacent business. Member Cove suggested that the applicant modify his application to propose the same style railing that currently exists on his business, as it would be more in keeping with the business to use the same style as the existing railing. Mr. Heroux stated that he is willing to revise his proposal to accommodate this change.

Member Searl stated that it's more important to have the new construction relate to the existing construction rather than the stairs, even though they're close. They are not attached to the railing system that is already there. The railing system should match the railing system that is already in place. She questioned the applicant about the telephone box that will interfere with the landing of the stairs. Mr. Heroux stated that there are two boxes there. One is the mailbox, which will be relocated to the other side of the door. The other box is a phone service box, which will be removed.

Member Cove made a ***motion***, seconded by Member McBride, to approve the application for installation of stairs at 7 Schoen Place, with the following conditions: (1) the style of the railing will match the existing deck railing; and (2) The phone service box will be removed.

**Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.**

**Member Items:**

**Minutes:**

Member Cove made a ***motion***, seconded by Member Searl, to approve May 11, 2020 meeting minutes, as drafted.

**Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.**

Chairperson McBride made a ***motion***, seconded by Member Cove, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

**Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Harrington – yes; Searl - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on July 13, 2020.**