

VILLAGE OF PITTSFORD
Historic Preservation Board
Monday September 14, 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.

The Clerk 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: Board members had no conflicts to declare.

Lisa Polvino, 50 State Street ~ Window

Present: Lisa Polvino, Business owner

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 08/31/20.

Discussion: The applicant stated that she is proposing installing a window on the side of the business located at 50 State Street. She explained that because of the COVID-19 virus, her business has been significantly reduced. The window will allow customers to drive up to the window to pick up their orders, without entering the business. The proposed window is a primed exterior wood window with brick molding applied, similar to the existing window on the front of the building, except that it is a sliding window instead of a casement style window. The applicant submitted documentation with the material and dimensions of the proposed window.

Motion: Member Cove made a motion, seconded by Member McBride, to approve the application for installation of a window at 50 State Street, as submitted.

Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Searl – abstain; Harrington - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on September 14, 2020.

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**Charles Konar, 3 Courtenay Circle ~ Fence**

**Present:** Charles Konar, Homeowner

**Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 07/28/20.**

**Discussion:** The application is for approval of a fence that has been installed at 3 Courtenay Circle. The fence is located in the rear of the yard in the same location as a previously existing fence. The fence is an all-wood, dog-eared style picket fence. The posts are facing the inside of the property.

**Motion:** Member Cove made a motion, seconded by Member Morrow, to approve the application for installation of a fence, as submitted, with the condition that the posts will face inside.

**Vote: McBride – abstain; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Searl – yes; Harrington - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on September 14, 2020.**

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Chris Harrington, 37 Courtenay Circle ~ Windows

Present: Chris Harrington, Homeowner

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 08/20/20.

Discussion: The applicant replaced nine wood windows on the front elevation of the house with windows made of Fibrex, a composite material made of fiberglass and wood fiber. Board members expressed concern that the previously existing wood windows were replaced with windows that are a different material and design. Member Searl stated that the replacement windows are not compatible with the Village's Design Guidelines.

Member McBride stated that the application will remain open, so that board members can further research the application.

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**Steven Wilson, 19 Eastview Terrace ~ Stairs/Pillars**

**Present:** Steven Wilson, Homeowner

**Discussion:** The applicant stated that he replaced the deteriorated front walk and stairs and installed railings, pillars, lights, and landscaping to the front entrance of the house, located at 19 Eastview Terrace. Board members commented that the house is a modest home, and the new entrance is somewhat elaborate, but it is generally not out of character for the style of home. Board members questioned the applicant regarding the addition of the lights on top of the pillars. Mr. Lauth explained that the lights have a small candelabra-style bulb in them, which is basically accent lighting. Member Searl pointed out that it is relatively common in historic homes for there to be outside lights in the neighborhoods.

**Motion:** Member Cove made a motion, seconded by Member Searl, to approve, as submitted, the application for landscaping, stairs, pillars, lights, and railings for property located at 19 Eastview Terrace, as submitted.

**Vote: McBride – yes; Cove – yes; Morrow - yes; Searl – yes; Harrington - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on September 14, 2020.**

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Rabia Stevenson, 83 South Street ~ Solar Panels

Present: Rabia Stevenson, Homeowner

Application: Submitted, date-stamped, and Building Inspector reviewed on 08/31/20.

Discussion: The applicant is proposing installing a ground mount solar system in the rear of the property located at 83 South Street. The applicant provided photographs and specifications for the proposal. The panels will be screened from view with vegetation and brush and are minimally visible from the public way. No trees will be removed with the installation of the system. The battery backup system will be stored in the basement.

The Board referenced #11 of the *Criteria for Design Principles for Installation of Solar Harvesting Resources on Historic Pittsford Village Buildings, Structures, and Resources*, which states “The use of ground-mounted solar harvesting systems is encouraged if it is possible to locate the panels in an inconspicuous location, such as a rear or side yard, low to the ground, and reasonably screened to further limit visibility. Care must be taken to respect the historic landscape.”

Member Harrington pointed out that the location for the solar system is minimally visible from the public way. He stated that he strongly supports the proposal, and that in his opinion, the installation of the solar system will not adversely impact the historic character of the property.

Member Cove stated that although the view of the system is obscured by foliage, this may not permanently block the view of it, because trees and bushes can die. She also pointed out that this is a private backyard and the system is removable, so she supports the proposal.

Member Morrow stated that he supports the proposal for installation of the solar system, and further stated that it does not adversely impact the historic character of the property.

Member Searl stated that she agrees that the solar panels, as proposed and as located, have no impact on the historic resource. She pointed out that there are weeds and large trees with ivy growing on them in the area. She requested that the owner clear away the brush and the weeds and select some smaller trees to

plant. On the property side of the big trees, she suggested that more permanent evergreen shrubs, with a mature height of approximately 6 to 8 feet, be planted to obscure the view from the street.

Member McBride stated that he supports the proposal because installation of the solar panels will not adversely impact the historic character of the property.

Motion: Member Cove made a motion, seconded by Member McBride, to approve the application for solar panels at the property of 83 South Street, with the condition that suitable screening approval will be defined at the October 14, 2020 HPB meeting.

Vote: McBride - yes; Cove - yes; Morrow - yes; Searl - yes; Harrington - yes. The decision was filed in the office of the Village Clerk on September 14, 2020.

Motion: Member McBride made a motion, seconded by Member Cove, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Vote: McBride - yes; Cove - yes; Morrow - yes; Searl - yes.