

MINUTES OF THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD FOR THE TOWN OF STRASBURG HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2009 AT 7 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN HALL.

ARB Members present: Vice Chairperson Seth Newman and Members James Massey and Richard Seelbach. Absent: Chairperson Chris Skarupa and Member Lisa Floryancic.

The minutes of the September 17, 2009 meeting and the October 15, 2009 meeting were approved as presented.

Town Clerk Keller announced the Council was recommending the appointment of Marcy McCann to the ARB with her term beginning January 1, 2010. Also, Council will be voting on the re-appointment of Mr. and Mr. Seelbach for another term; Lisa Floryancic is not interested in serving another term. The appointments will be made at the December Council meeting.

Action Item:

Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to permit the reconstruction of a porch with new materials located at 254 West Queen Street.

Vice Chairperson Newman asked what the floor would be made from if the base was to be limestone. He added the surrounding porches are made from a wood frame and so he thought this should stay as a wooden base. Mr. Massey pointed out that there would need to be a foundation to put in either a limestone or brick base and so the sidewalk would need to be dug up to do this. He, too, would rather see a wood base as he does not want to see a thin stone veneer placed on the porch base.

Mr. Seelbach was concerned with the width of the sidewalk and if there would be 36" of walking space. He asked about setting a precedent if there is not 36", but was told the porch is existing so no precedence would be set if the applicant is allowed to have the base replaced --- this would just be replacing something already there.

Mr. Massey said if the porch itself is more than 50 years old, then it is historic in itself and so it should be replaced with the same material as was removed.

Mr. Massey moved to deny the request to build the porch out of limestone or brick and to recommend it be a frame structure; second by Mr. Seelbach. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Seelbach asked if the mural proposed for the side of the old Artz building had to come before the ARB. Clerk Keller will ask Planner Rex about this.

Mr. Massey asked if the Downtown Enhancement Project will come before the ARB for suggestions. Mr. Seelbach gave a background of what is being proposed. It is the Board's hope the ideas will come before the ARB. It was suggested transplanting the current Bradford pear trees to another place, such as the river bank.

.f

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Town Planner

Town Clerk