

**Historic District Commission
MINUTES**

**January 23, 2020
City of Hagerstown, Maryland**

Michael Gehr, chair, called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. on Thursday, January 23, 2020, in the Conference Room, Fourth Floor, City Hall. A roster of the members of the commission and the technical posts they fill are on file and available upon request. Also present were commission members L. Allen, R. Powell, and M. Wertman. S. Bockmiller, Development Planner/Zoning Administrator and D. Calhoun, Secretary, were present on behalf of the Planning and Code Administration Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

January 9, 2020.

MOTION: (Allen/Powell) I so move (to approve the minutes of January 9).
DISCUSSION: None.
ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

CONSENT AGENDA

None.

DESIGN REVIEW

141 South Potomac Street – St. John’s Lutheran Church – Electronic Sign – Motion to Dismiss, Case No. HDC 2019-44.

Staff Report: The applicant decided that redesigning their sign to resemble a more traditional sign is too cost prohibitive. Therefore, they are no longer pursuing this application.

Applicant/Commission Discussion: None.

MOTION: (Wertman/Allen) I move that Case HDC 2019-44 will be dismissed as requested.
DISCUSSION: None.
ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

39 North Potomac Street – Matthew Rempe/Above the Clouds – Awning, Case No. HDC 2020-01.

Matthew Rempe, 39 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, Maryland, was present.

**Historic District Commission
MINUTES**

**January 23, 2020
City of Hagerstown, Maryland**

Staff Report: This building is a B resource in the Downtown Local Historic District. The applicant proposes to install a 16.5-foot wide x 5-foot tall x 2-foot deep mill-finished, aluminum frame, black Sunbrella acrylic awning over the storefront. The awning will be attached to the storefront in the wood portion of the storefront with 3/8-inch steel lags. The storefront has black Carrera glass and the black awning will coordinate. Staff recommended approval. Eight feet of clearance shall be maintained between the bottom of the awning and the sidewalk. The logo, including the email address, shall be limited to 16.5 square feet per the Zoning Ordinance. The illustration in the application will be scaled back to meet the requirements.

Applicant/Commission Discussion: Mr. Rempe had nothing to add. Ms. Allen wanted to make sure that the awning will not be attached to the building through the glass storefront material.

MOTION: (Wertman/Powell) Mr. Chairman, I have inspected the project plans and the property in question, and if constructed in accordance with these plans, that the brackets go into the plywood and it is attached without damaging the glass underneath, the project is compatible with the character of the district for the reasons it is generally in harmony with the Architectural Design Guidelines for the Downtown Historic District and the character of the adjoining properties. Therefore, I move that the HDC grant a Certificate of Appropriateness to the applicant for Case No. 2020-01.

DISCUSSION: None.

ACTION: APPROVED (Unanimous)

WORKSHOP

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Powell asked which is the appropriate department to contact about possibly making some of the side streets that run between The Terrace and Potomac Avenue one way. Most of these streets are too narrow for vehicles to pass one another. Staff will check with the Parks and Engineering Department.

Ms. Allen asked who a friend should call about a rental property that is not being maintained. The damage is not visible from the street. Staff advised they should call the Planning and Code Administration Department, specifically Code Administration.

Fairgrounds Entrance Building and the Caretaker's House. Robert Powell and Leslie Allen attended a recent Mayor and Council meeting where the Entrance Building and the Caretaker's House were discussed. There is a grant available that the City will be applying for to help with

stabilizing the buildings. Previous stabilization efforts were discussed. Mr. Bockmiller noted that these buildings are not a high priority for the City since there are no identified uses for the buildings and the City's limited budget. During the last stabilization efforts a historic easement was placed on the property when the City accepted state money to help fund the project. (Ms. Wertman left the meeting.)

OLD BUSINESS

340-342 North Potomac Street. Ms. Allen noted that this building was recently modified by filling in an attic window with plywood and adding a dryer vent. Also, the lighting on the building was changed. Staff will have an inspector look at this.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn (4:58 p.m.).

2/13/2020
Approved


Debra C. Calhoun – Secretary