

OHPC

Public Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Virtual Go to Meeting

- **Call to order** at 7:04 PM
- **Attendance:** Commissioners Bigsby, Overhiser, Kennedy (Knickerbocker arrived later).
Absent: Gates
- **Public Attendance** -Bradford Noble, applicant. Megan Griffiths and Brittany Woodburn from Team Tioga.
- **Public Comments** -none
- **Applications for COA to Review:**
20201-1, 194 Front Street, Commercial Facade

Findings of Fact:

Pursuant to Village of Owego Code Chapter 126: "Preservation" adopted 2/19/2019

Chair Bigsby made a motion to approve the following Findings of Facts for application # 202010-1, 194 Front Street, Commercial façade rehabilitation:

The commercial storefront rehabilitation project for this historic 1850 building at 194 Front Street will use New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) money to repair-in-kind and perform routine maintenance due to structural and water damage from leaks. This storefront is not original to the building but will be repaired/replaced-in-kind to replicate current storefront using like and similar building materials. Proposed work will replace the rotted wood on the existing storefront, reframe it and create a new storefront façade, identical to the present façade. Storefront single pane display windows may be replaced with thermal energy efficient ones which will look identical to the ones replaced. The front door openings to the upstairs residences and to the commercial space may be modified to accommodate planned structural repairs but will retain their current appearance. Salvaged and/or matching trim components to exterior will be installed where needed. Structural repairs described by project contractor, PJF Enterprises, INC's 2/19/19 prospectus requires a building permit to be issued before any work approved for this COA is to begin. This work was given final approved by SHPO on August 27, 2020.

References:

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines (2017) for rehabilitation p. 113 Storefront

OHPC Design Guidelines 2019 p.14 Storefronts

Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) it has been determined by the OHPC that this proposal constitutes a TYPE II action as defined under 6 CRR-NY 67.5(c).

Any additional work or changes not described above will require further review by the OHPC. All work will be conducted according to applicable Village Code.

Commissioner Overhiser seconded the motion. Commissioners Bigsby, Kennedy, and Overhiser voted to approve the motion, Motion passed.

Chair Bigsby made a motion to approve issuing a COA for application # 202010-1, 194 Front Street, based upon the previously approved Findings of Facts. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion. Commissioners Bigsby, Kennedy, and Overhiser voted to approve the motion. Motion to issue the COA passed.

- **Informal Discussion of any prospective applications for future review and updates on past or ongoing projects.** Some plans to replace residential windows without specific address were noted. The need to welcome new property owners of the district was noted.
- **Pillars of Preservation:** Nominations were taken for the first “Pillars of Preservation” awards. The first four names were David Allen, Pat Hansen, John Shafer and John Spencer. Further discussion to take place at next OHPC meeting.
- **Commissioner Reports** – none
- **Chair Report:** Chair reports that she has reached out to Becca at Tioga Count tourism to discuss applying for CLG Grant to develop “heritage tourism”. Discussed renewal of terms of office for Commissioners. Commissioners agreed to accept offer from Matt Labo for donation of book “Get your House Right” by Marianne Cusato. This is an offer to include the book in a welcome package to new property owners in the district. Sent letter to James Finelli at SHPO re: restoration of historic district boundary markers. Discussed future addition of a North Avenue Historic District Boundary marker (DRI funding?) Chair will give quarterly report to BOT at next meeting, including sharing of revised application process.
- **Public Comments** – None
- **Adjourned** at 8:04 PM

Respectfully submitted by Nadine Bigsby with support from Jim Overhiser

Next OHPC Meeting on November 5, 2020 at 7 PM. Location TBD.