

**CITY OF ALBANY
LANDMARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
City Council chambers, 333 Broadalbin Street
Wednesday, September 4, 2013
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Landmarks Commissioners Present: Oscar Hult, Bill Ryals, Larry Preston, Dave Pinyerd, Jolene Thompson, Jessica Pankratz

Landmarks Commissioners Excused: Camron Settlemier

Staff present: Anne Catlin, Lead Long Range Planner; Edene Rice, Administrative Assistant; Tari Hayes Administrative Services Supervisor

Others present: Rebecca Bond

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hult called the meeting of the Landmarks Advisory Commission (LAC) to order at 6:03 PM.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

August 7, 2013 Minutes: Commissioner Thompson moved to approve the August 7, 2013 minutes as written. Commissioner Pankratz seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARING: HI-09-13, 617 5th Ave SW

Chairman Hult called the quasi-judicial public hearing on HI-09-13 to order at 6:04 p.m.

This is a request to use cement board siding on the front face of the house at 617 Fifth Avenue SW as described in the application and staff report for planning file HI-09-13.

Declarations: Pankratz drove by the home.

Staff Report:

Planner Anne Catlin summarized the staff report by saying that this request is to replace original siding on the South and front side of the c.1890 house with cement board siding. The siding is proposed to be placed with the same vertical dimensions and reveal as the original siding. The proposed siding will not affect any character-defining element of this historic resource and will not be noticeable when complete.

The front porch posts and rail were also replaced to match what was there before. The exception is that in the middle of the rail a 6-inch by 6-inch column was installed rather than the 2-inch by 4-inch boards used as balusters there were there before. This column is not necessary for structural support and is out of character with porches in this district.

Staff is recommending approval of both alterations with one condition of approval.

Applicant Testimony: None.

Audience Testimony: None.

Hult closed the public hearing at 6:16 p.m.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner's Preston and Pinyerd questioned the location of the rail down the middle of the stairs because with the rail going down the middle of the stairs it makes the stairs look too wide. Planner Catlin said that the applicant was working with his insurance company and they felt that the rail should be placed there. Pankratz questioned why the insurance company should care about the design of the railing.

Preston commented that the column/post holding up the handrail in the middle of the two support columns isn't something that is normally seen on such a short span. This also brought up the discussion of the spacing of the pickets; they should be the same on both the porch and the stairs.

The commission also talked about the newel post caps that the style used are more typical of a bungalow style home with the one on the top stair being out of scale with the post. It was also mentioned that the use of a solar light is not indicative of this time period of home. The commission then discussed that possibly a timer or movement sensor on the light on the front porch would be a better solution.

Commissioner Ryals then said that he would be available if the applicant would like some direction or had construction questions. Ryals felt that a quick conversation could help the applicant by saving money and bringing the front porch and stairs into more of an era correct style.

Ryals asked how to proceed with approving the substitute siding request. Catlin stated that the original application was for the siding only. She noticed the other alterations when taking photographs for the staff report and added it to her review when technically the applicant should submit a separate application for those alterations. She suggested the Commission act on the original request for substitute siding and that she communicate with the applicant about submitting a new application for the alterations to the front porch balustrade and noting Ryals' offer for design assistance.

Commission Action

Motion. Pankratz made the motion that the Landmarks Commission APPROVE the application for an exterior alteration request to use substitute materials for siding on the front of the house at **617 Fifth Avenue SW** this motion is based on the findings and conclusions of the staff report and testimony presented at the public hearing. Ryals seconded the motion. **The motion passed 5 to 1 with Pinyerd voting no.**

OTHER BUSINESS

Catlin reported that all of the Certified Local Government grant projects were complete. She noted the need to set up a meeting with the Lehigh Acres residents to review the draft National Register nomination finding for the post World War II neighborhood to determine if there is interest in pursuing the nomination. Pinyerd noted a two-step process is common – the first step is to get the district listed in the National Register, and then go back and determine whether or not to adopt any design guidelines. Some National Register listings are honorary only.

Catlin said she would get back to reviewing Article 7 for revisions. She distributed copies of preservation ordinances from Corvallis and Salem and a marked up copy of Article 7 for review prior to next month's meeting.

Hult noted that Antiques in the Streets was this coming weekend, September 7, 2013. The Albany Visitors Association will have a booth if the Commission is interested in providing information.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the LAC is scheduled for October 2, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Hult adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:42 p.m.

Submitted by

Reviewed by

Edene Rice
Administrative Assistant

Anne Catlin
Planner III