Town of Newburgh Historic Preservation Commission Minutes September 12, 2019

Members Present:

Jeff Cox, Jim Renne, Steve Shoemaker, Brent Grafe, Troy Wells

Advisory Members Present:

Sue Morrison

Administrative Present:

Stacie Krieger, Council Liaison; Chris Wischer, Town Attorney; Tavi Wydicks, Zoning Administrator

Members & Administrative Absent:

Stewart Sebree, Advisor; Sue Morrison, Advisor; David Wills: Jim Lang

Citizens Present:

John & Stacey Cobb, 11 State Street Aaron Jost, 10 W. Jennings Street Daniel & Paula Lorenzen, 227 Cypress Street Candi Burress, 620 E. Main Street Donovan & Kelli Wilkins, 6611 Old Stonehouse Drive

Reading, Correction and Approval of Previous Minutes:

Steve Shoemaker made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Troy Wells seconded. No discussion. Motion was approved.

REPORTS:

Town Council Liaison:

No report.

Indiana Landmarks Southwest Field Office:

No report.

Staff Report and Code Enforcement Update:

No report.

Newburgh Neighbor Residential Grant Program:

Tavi Wydicks stated that grant applications have been submitted to the Vectren Foundation and Christian Science Society. Ms. Wydicks stated that the yard signs have been completed and picked up, but after speaking with Stacie Krieger the decision was made to hold the postcard mailer until more grant funds are available.

Certified Local Government:

No Report.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion - 501c3 for Grant Program

Chris Wischer stated that legal is working on 501c3 status for the Newburgh neighbor Residential Grant Program.

Discussion – District Expansion

No discussion.

New Business:

COA Application – 11 State Street

John Cobb presented the Commission with a proposal to add a brick retaining wall and spiral staircase at the rear of the property and copper gutters. Ms. Wydicks stated that the brick retaining wall was approved and the permit and COA for that portion of the project have been issued. The Commission discussed the project with Mr. Cobb.

Steve Shoemaker moved to approve the COA application as presented. Troy Wells seconded the motion and the motion carried.

COA Application - 201 W. Jennings Street

Tavi Wydicks stated that the petitioner was not in attendance and presented the COA application to the Commission. The Commission asked how much of the fence could be seen from the public way and what state to deterioration the wrought iron section of the fence was in and if it could be restored. Ms. Wydicks stated that she did not have the answers to those questions. The Commission decided to hold the COA application until the October meeting when the petitioner could be present to answer the questions.

COA Application – 10 W. Jennings Street

Tavi Wydicks stated that the petitioner is requesting to add a patio and landscaping to the west side of the front of the property and to remove the glass enclosure from the front porch. Aaron Jost discussed the petition with the Commission.

Jim Renne moved to approve the COA application as presented. Troy Wells seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Discussion – 227 Cypress Street

Mr. & Mrs. Lorenzen spoke regarding the work being completed on their home at 227 Cypress Street. Jeff Cox stated that the door that was installed was not approved by the Commission, and Mrs. Lorenzen stated that she received approval via email for the door. Ms. Wydicks reviewed past emails and apologized to the Commission for incorrectly reporting that the door was not approved, and that it was in fact approved via email, that the siding was the only portion of the project so far that was not completed based on the COA approval. Mr. Cox stated that the COA approval was to repair the exiting cedar siding, and the cedar siding was removed and replaced with vinyl siding. The Lorenzen's asked what about their home made it historic. Ms. Wydicks stated that the property is located on the SHAARD database. The Lorenzen's stated that they have received multiple compliments on the work that has been completed on their home. Steve Shoemaker asked Mr. & Mrs. Lorenzen why they did not come back to the Commission to explain why repairing the cedar siding was not cost effective and ask permission to amend the COA. Mrs. Lorenzen responded and stated that they had a lot going on personally and needed to get the work done. Chris Wischer stated that it is the responsibility of the Commission to administer the guidelines uniformly, and suggested the Commission take the issue under advisement and he would provide a summary of the options the Commission has.

Steve Shoemaker moved to approve the vinyl siding. Brent Grafe seconded the motion. Mr. Wischer stated that in situations where the Commission is asked to waive a guideline, the Commission needs to find a valid reason to waive and be careful not to set a precedent. Mr. Cox stated that his primary concern was setting a precedent and would prefer not to make a decision on the issue tonight. Troy Wells stated that he agreed with Mr. Cox. Jeff Cox moved to table Mr. Shoemaker's motion to the October meeting. Troy Wells seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Newburgh Neighbor Grant Program Applications

The Commission reviewed the following grant applications:

Frank Bockting, 508 W. Water Street – Front Porch Addition

Ms. Wydicks stated that the request is for the addition of a porch to the front of the property. The Commission determined that due to limited funding, they would recommend this application be held and reviewed when additional funding became available.

Phillip Field, 201 W. Jennings Street – Restoration of Existing Front Porch

Ms. Wydicks stated that the grant application request is to restore and repair the existing front porch, specifically the deteriorating crown molding. Ms. Wydicks stated that the total cost of the project is \$2.365.00 and the applicant is requesting grant funds in the amount of \$1,576.66. The Commission discussed the application and the project.

Steve Shoemaker moved to recommend to the grant committee to approve the grant application for 201 W. Jennings Street. Troy Wells seconded the motion and the motion carried.

David Garrett, 328 Sycamore Street – Replace Four Windows and Two Doors

Ms. Wydicks stated that the grant application request is to replace four windows and two doors on the front of the house. The Commission determined that due to limited funding, they would recommend this application be held and reviewed when additional funding became available.

Announcements:

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present:

None

Adjourn:

Steve Shoemaker made a motion to adjourn. Troy Wells seconded and the motion carried.