

COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

MARCH 27, 2014

**Members Present**

Susan Stilwell  
Sarah Latham  
Robert Weir  
Richard Morris  
Robin Crews

**Members Absent**

Michael Nicholas

**Staff**

Renee Burton  
Scott Holtry  
Christy Taylor

Chairman Stilwell called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mrs. Burton opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.

**Mr. Weir nominated Mrs. Stilwell for Chairman. Mr. Morris seconded the nomination. The nomination was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Mrs. Burton opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman.

**Mrs. Latham nominated Mr. Nicholas for Vice Chairman. Mrs. Stilwell seconded the nomination. The nomination was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Mrs. Burton opened the floor for nominations for Secretary.

**Mrs. Latham nominated Mrs. Crews for Secretary. Mr. Morris seconded the nomination. The nomination was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

**ITEMS FOR PUBLIC HEARING**

- 1. Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness PLCAR201400068 filed by Stephen and Susan Wilson to construct a new 9' x 12' wooden rear deck, construct concrete stairs beneath side entrance, install awning over side entrance and widen existing sidewalk to side entrance at 608 Holbrook Avenue.*

Open the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of the request was Mr. Stephen Wilson and Mrs. Susan Wilson.

Mrs. Latham stated assuming that you are preparing to go back with wood planks, I do not believe that needs to be part of our approval.

Mrs. Burton stated right that is not mandatory.

Mrs. Stilwell stated there are no photographs of such, but when I added a deck on the back of the stone house I had it custom made. It is available, black iron railing. It was very reasonable and the maintenance was fantastic. I don't know what anybody else on the Commission would think of that. Wood is so subject to weather.

Mrs. Wilson stated we looked into metal railing at 918 and we decided that what we could get for that wasn't going to be feasible. All we could get was something much more modern which we didn't think was a good fit for this particular house. It has siding right now and I am not thinking that metal would enhance that. The price was high, especially for what we are ever going to get out of Holbrook.

Mrs. Stilwell stated I just wanted to mention it. I had one more thing. It looked like to me, at the side door there is a downspout. I think that needs to be dealt with in terms of the concrete stoop and widening the sidewalk.

Mr. Wilson stated there is a downspout to the right of the door.

Mrs. Stilwell asked is it going to be a problem with the stoop?

Mr. Wilson stated it goes somewhere under the ground. It is not an historic downspout.

Mrs. Wilson stated it is beyond that.

Mrs. Latham asked what did you have in mind about the awning?

Mrs. Wilson responded probably canvas.

Mrs. Stilwell stated I recommend striped because they don't fade as much as a solid awning fades. A striped awning also doesn't show bird droppings or mildew. It doesn't have to be anything bold.

Mrs. Wilson stated thank you. We will keep that in mind.

Mr. Morris asked what is the material of the current sidewalk?

Mr. Wilson responded concrete.

Mr. Morris stated it looks like blocks or something.

Mr. Wilson stated yeah it looks like blocks, but it is only about 3' x 18", concrete, with lines across it.

Mrs. Stilwell asked is that going to be an entrance into an apartment?

Mr. Wilson responded no. It just happens to be the only door that I have a key to. It also goes to the backyard.

Mr. Morris asked does it go to the front sidewalk?

Mr. Wilson responded it does connect to the City's.

Mrs. Wilson responded to the Holbrook Avenue sidewalk not to the front sidewalk that goes to the front door.

Mr. Morris stated so those aren't historic stones or anything. Are you removing it or going over top of it?

Mr. Wilson responded I am thinking of pouring a similar strip right next to it. It is in perfect shape but it needs to be twice as wide.

Mr. Morris stated I am confused now. The proposed one shows going over top of it.

Mr. Wilson stated I see because of the red lines. I prefer to do next to it, but if you would like us to tear it up, that might work better. The guy at Marshall Concrete recommended tearing it up.

Mr. Morris stated rather than having two different types of concrete it would probably be best to go over it. I am not sure what you would have to rip out tree wise to move that whole thing over to the right.

Mr. Wilson stated it is not going to be moved at all. The red line shows making it 18" wide towards the house.

There was further discussion about the existing sidewalk and where the proposed addition would be.

Close the Public Hearing.

**Mrs. Latham made a motion to approve the request with a new deck, a canvas awning, and a widened concrete sidewalk, approximately 18" to the left of the curb. Mr. Weir seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINTUES**

**Mrs. Latham made a motion to approve the December 12, 2013 minutes. Mrs. Crews seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was discussion about Stuart/Stewart Street and Paxton Avenue/Street signs.

**Mrs. Stilwell made a request for further research to be done regarding Paxton Avenue/Paxton Street and Stuart/Stewart Street to be presented to City Council. Mrs. Latham seconded the request. The request was approved by a unanimous vote.**

There was discussion about Mr. Holbrook's property on West Main Street regarding the windows.

There was discussion about property that Tim Norton owns.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

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Approved