

COMMISSION OF ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW
December 12, 2013

Members Present

Robert Weir
Susan Stilwell
Michael Nicholas
Sarah Latham
Robin Crews

Members Absent

Richard Morris
Cynthia Castle

Staff

Renee Burton
Christy Taylor
Clarke Whitfield
Scott Holtry

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

I. ITEMS FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1. Request for a Certificate of Appropriateness, PLCAR201300000378, to complete the following at 407 Chestnut Street:

- ***Remove side door and install wood window***
- ***Construct granite columns and walls for a small garden in front with a wrought iron gate entrance***

Open the Public Hearing.

Present on behalf of the request was Mr. Fred Meder and Mr. Lawrence Meder. Mr. Fred Meder stated this is my brother. He bought 407 with the hopes of restoring it to live in it. It was a duplex and we are converting it to a single family. The side door was how you go into the second half of the duplex. The window was bricked in. We are just going to manufacture an old window to fit that space.

Mrs. Stilwell asked the lights are 1/1 right?

Mr. Fred Meder responded yes. That is the first part of the request.

Mrs. Crews read the second part of the request.

Mrs. Stilwell stated we have this drawing.

Mr. Fred Meder stated there are two things that are important about this. This house is some kind of colonial house. I have not been able to ID this house.

Mr. Lawrence Meder stated we've actually gone back in the historical records and found out that this house was actually two structures in 1892. In 1910, it was bought by the son who then we think either tore it down and rebuilt or enclosed. I am finding architectural evidence that it was enclosed. The patio in the front is very ugly.

Mr. Fred Meder stated the objective is to mitigate that blue shelf that you see there. A small wall with bedded plants will soften that ugly wall. The gate would be at the front walkway. It is an old gate.

Mrs. Stilwell asked is that the gate that you found at the recycle?

Mr. Lawrence Meder responded I did.

Mr. Fred Meder stated the property lines are approximate on the drawing. I wanted to push that column over towards the alley slightly to split the difference. I think it would mitigate it.

Close the Public Hearing.

Mrs. Stilwell stated I want to disclose that I did sell this house to them. Does that create any problems?

Mr. Whitfield asked are the transactions closed?

Mrs. Stilwell responded months ago.

Mr. Whitfield stated if you were currently marketing the property, then yes. You need to disclose that when you vote.

Mrs. Stilwell stated I am quite familiar with the house. It will look nice I think.

Mr. Nicholas asked does anyone have any objections to any of these requests?

Several Commissioners responded no.

Mr. Nicholas made a motion to approve PLCAR20130000378 as submitted. Mrs. Crews seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Latham made a correction to the minutes.

Mr. Nicholas made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2013 meeting as corrected. Mrs. Latham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was discussion about the upcoming Preservation Task Force meeting.

There was discussion about signage issues related to Paxton Avenue and Stuart Street.

There was discussion about boarded houses on Pine and Chestnut.

Mrs. Burton reminded everyone of the upcoming election of officers in January.

Mrs. Burton informed the Commissioners that there will be an auction on Main Street Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

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

APPROVED