

Sykesville Historic District Commission Minutes

OCTBER 25, 2016

The Sykesville Historic District Commission (SHDC) meeting was held on October 25, 2016 in the Conference Room at the Sykesville Town House. Commissioner Fogg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENT: Commissioner Norman Fogg and Council Member Stacy Link

ABSENT: Commissioner Matthew Olsen

STAFF: Dawn Ashbacher, Town Manager
Kerry Chaney, Town Clerk

SHDC MINUTES: October 6, 2016 – Council Member Link motioned and Commissioner Fogg seconded to accept the minutes as written.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS:

- # 16-18 7541 Main Street Reevaluation of the awning

The applicant was not in attendance, however, she provided a sample of the material to be used for her awning. The previous concern was that the material would be shiny and look like plastic. The material sample provided was comparable to canvas duck, which is what was recommended in the guidelines. The additional pictures show that the hardware of the awning will have approximately eight feet of clearance and only the fringe will be below that.

A motion was made by Council Member Link and seconded by Commissioner Fogg to approve the reevaluation of the application for 7541 Main Street per the guidelines pages 34-35 and with the acrylic material provided as a sample.

- # 16-16 731 Oklahoma Avenue Steps for the Pullman Car

The applicant was not in attendance, however Commissioner Fogg was able to provide more detail for this application. The blue Pullman Car currently has wooden stairs that have a tread of 42 inches. The Sykesville and Patapsco (S&P) Railway Club has a set of metal stairs that were donated to them. The metal stairs have a tread of 30 inches. The caboose currently has metal stairs that have a 30 inch tread. It was decided to have S&P Railway Club check with the County to see if the tread of the new stairs will meet the standards and then bring this back before the Commission for a vote.

- #16-21 7606 Main Street Retroactive approval of work

The applicant was not in attendance. The awnings were changed to match the new paint

color of the building. The height and clearance appear to meet the SHDC Guidelines. The awning material is the same type used in #16-18. The sign on the back is an applied wall sign; there is no restriction for square footage. The lettering, however, is not supposed to exceed 18 inches in height. The “S” is clearly bigger than that. It was pointed out that it is big so it can be legible from the ground. This sign is on the second story of the building, not in the signboard area of the first floor.

The shutters that were proposed are made of a vinyl material. There were also no dimensions provided, so it was hard to determine if the shutters will cover the entire window. More information was requested to determine if the vinyl has a wooden appearance and if the shutters are big enough.

A motion was made by Council Member Link and seconded by Commissioner Fogg to approve the awnings and oval sign for 7606 Main Street per the guidelines, pages 34-35, 40-41, and 38-40. Further clarification is needed before approval of the shutters.

- #16-22 7610 Main Street Retroactive approval of work

The applicant was not in attendance. The unoriginal brick facade and awning were removed from the building. The removal of these adds to the historic nature of the building.

A motion was made by Council Member Link and seconded by Commissioner Fogg to approve the removal of the brick façade and awning at 7610 Main Street.

Business Use of Sidewalks Review

The revised guidelines are acceptable, however, Council Member Link asked for the wording to be changed slightly on the second bullet point. As it is, the wording is confusing because of the repeated use of the word “light”. The size restrictions were discussed at the previous meeting. It was decided to not have a restriction on the size, but to use the space in front of each building to determine the appropriate size. These guidelines will have to be approved by the Mayor and Town Council. The next SHDC meeting should allow for public input on these guidelines, both emailed and in person.

Street Furniture Guidelines Discussion

The Maryland Historical Trust provided towns and cities that have street furniture guidelines. These were supplied to the Commissioners. It was decided that they will review the guidelines from the other towns and decide which would work for Sykesville. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

BUSINESS:

- November Meeting Dates:
The next scheduled meeting is on November 9 at 6 P.M. This meeting is to allow for comments on the Warfield Development Plan. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on November 22 at 7 P.M. Dawn Ashbacher asked the Commissioners to keep November 7 open as a possible joint meeting between the SHDC and the Planning Commission. This would be for Warfield Discussions.
- Open positions on the Commission:
Two people were in attendance who showed an interest in joining the SHDC. The Commissioners explained about the SHDC and their duties. The people in attendance were asked to submit their letters of interest and informed that the next step in the process would be a meeting with the Mayor.
- Observation of Violations:
Nothing was observed.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, a motion was made by Council Member Link and seconded by Commissioner Fogg to adjourn at 8:20 P.M. The Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kerry Chaney, Recording Secretary