

Community Preservation Panel February 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the Aurora Firehouse meeting room at 7:00 pm

Present: Chairperson Jim Burkett, Jeff Blum, Chris MacCormick, Claire Morehouse, and Julia Rossmann

Others Present

Village Officials: Clerk Ann Balloni, Planning Board member Pat Foser, Historian Dr. Linda Schwab, and CPP Alternate Erin Weber

Members of the Public: Aurora Free Library President Steve Moolin attended via phone

Call to Order: Mr. Burkett called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Changes to the Agenda: No changes

Approval of Minutes: On motion by MacCormick, seconded by Morehouse, the CPP voted to approve the January 5, 2022 minutes.

AYES: Blum, Burkett, MacCormick, Morehouse, and Rossmann

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements: Ms. Balloni handed out the current version of the Village Zoning Law that the Zoning Revisions Committee is working from.

Old Business: Per CPP request, Mr. Moolin supplied the panel with brown color samples of the library lockers approved at the January CPP meeting and noted that the lockers will have a matte finish, powder coated, not glossy as shown on the samples. Mr. Burkett noted that the panel may only advise on color choices and the panel appreciated Mr. Moolin agreeing to consider their suggestions. Mr. MacCormick and Ms. Morehouse agreed to meet at the library with the samples and contact Mr. Moolin with their preference.

Mr. Moolin questioned if the preferred color choice is on backorder and the only available option is the stainless-steel gray locker, if that would be acceptable to the CPP. The members all prefer waiting for the brown color.

New Business

#22-01 from the Aurora Free Library for replacement of steps at 370 Main St (Tax Map #182.13-1-21)

Mr. Burkett noted that the wooden steps were installed prior to CPP review and per Mr. Moolin are temporary but may remain for up to 2 years. Mr. Moolin apologized for skipping the review process but noted that a conversation was had with the Village Code Enforcement Officer due to safety concerns.

Mr. Blum questioned the safety of the space underneath the steps and suggested risers to fill the gap. Mr. Moolin replied that it is only a 5 ½" gap and he would prefer that the space remain so he can monitor why the stone steps deteriorated.

On motion by Ms. Morehouse, seconded by Ms. Rossmann, the CPP voted to approve Application #22-01, retroactively, as submitted.

AYES: Burkett, MacCormick, Morehouse, and Rossmann

NAYS: Blum

Motion carried 4-1.

Zoning Revisions:

Ms. Morehouse gave a synopsis of the two Zoning Revisions Committee meetings that she attended. Ms. Morehouse is a member of the committee and the liaison to the CPP. CPP members were tasked with reviewing the preservation section of the zoning law (section 700) and relaying their thoughts to the zoning committee.

The CPP discussed the following with Ms. Balloni, a committee member, and Dr. Schwab, a consultant to the committee.

- Consistency of definitions
- Coordinated site plan review with the CPP and Planning Board
- Consideration of the Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) for State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR)
- The actual historic district within the village
- More emphasis on the natural environment per the Comprehensive Plan
- Focus on the history of the village, not just the wealthy landowners
- Review model preservation laws
- Redefine “demolition”
- Adopt a maintenance law
- Update the historic district and consider historic neighborhoods
- Maintain a sense of community within the cultural and natural environment
- Consider eliminating the Certificate of Appropriateness with a simple board approval

Dr. Schwab referenced a model preservation law and asked the panel to review pages 1-3 (attached), as compared to section 700 in the Village Zoning Law. Ms. Balloni will email a copy of the full model law to the panel.

Adjournment: On motion by MacCormick, seconded by Blum, the CPP voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

AYES: Blum, Burkett, MacCormick, Morehouse, and Rossmann

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk