

Community Preservation Panel June 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

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

Present: Chairperson Jim Burkett, Jeff Blum, Chris MacCormick, Julia Rossmann, and Erin Weber (alternate)

Absent: Claire Morehouse

Others Present

Village Officials: Clerk Ann Balloni, ZBA member Laura Holland, and CEO Bob Rhea

Members of the Public: Jacci & Virgil Farlow and Bruce & Jean Spiegel

Call to Order: Mr. Burkett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Changes to the Agenda: No changes

Approval of Minutes: On motion by Blum, seconded by MacCormick, the CPP voted to approve the May 3, 2023 minutes.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Morehouse

Carried unanimously.

Announcements: No announcements

Old Business

#22-02 from Bruce & Jean Spiegel for changes to the front porch project at 522 Main St (Tax Map #181.08-1-14.1)

Ms. Spiegel explained that she believes there was a misunderstanding with the panel regarding the stone face on the new front porch pillars. Initially, they were going to include stone face on the wall but conceded the recommendation of the CPP. She did not think it also applied to the pillars.

Ms. Spiegel noted that their house is not in the historic district and submitted pictures of similar houses with stone facing. Mr. MacCormick responded that the houses pictured are not in Aurora and the CPP has traditionally reviewed all building changes in the village to preserve the village character. Mr. MacCormick added that CPP member, Claire Morehouse, was the most concerned about the stone pillars but was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Ms. Weber questioned if they considered doing stone facing on all four pillars as opposed to just the outside pillars. Ms. Spiegel replied that she would also prefer to do all four, but it is a matter of cost.

The panel questioned if the fascia would match the decking and Ms. Spiegel replied that it will be white on top. Ms. Weber asked about railings, and it was determined that they are not needed due to the landscaping. Mr. Burkett referred to section 707.C.1 and 2 and noted that there is nothing preventing the applicant from adding the stone pillars.

On motion by MacCormick, seconded by Blum, the CPP voted to approve 2 or 4 stone pillars for Application #22-02.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Morehouse

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Burkett issued the applicant a Certificate of Appropriateness.

New Business

#23-13 from Virgil Farlow for replacing steps at 432 Main St (Tax Map #181.12-1-15)

Mr. Farlow replaced the front steps at 432 Main St and changed the wood railings to rod iron.

On motion by Weber, seconded by Rossmann, the CPP voted to retroactively approve Application #23-13 as submitted.

Mr. Burkett issued the applicant a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Zoning Committee Update: Mr. MacCormick expressed his disappointment with the Zoning Committee's intention to limit the purview of the CPP to landmarks and the historic district. Mr. MacCormick disputes the village attorney and county planner's assertion that Aurora is unique in having purview over the entire village and they question if it would hold up in court. Mr. MacCormick notes in his letter (attached) that the NY State Model Preservation Law has support for purview over a municipality. The panel agreed to address when the draft law is submitted to the Board of Trustees for their review and input.

Adjournment: On motion by MacCormick, seconded by Blum, the CPP voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Morehouse

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk