

Community Preservation Panel March 5, 2025, Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held at the Aurora Firehouse meeting room at 7:00 p.m.

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

Others Present

Village Officials: Clerk Ann Balloni, Historian Dr. Linda Schwab, and CPP Alternate John Wendler

Aurora Free Library: David Eckert

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 Morehouse, second by Rossmann, the CPP voted to approve the February 5, 2025, minutes.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements: Mr. Burkett reported that the Village Board of Trustees voted to introduce the update to the local landmark list but rejected the CPP recommendations for revising section 700 of the Village Zoning Law.

Dr. Shwab informed the panel of potential State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) approval if the Patrick Tavern project is chosen to receive DRI funding.

Old Business: Mr. Burkett informed the panel that replacement of deck railings at Aurora Cooks, approved by the CPP and recommended painted white, must retain the dark green color or the warranty is invalid. Mr. Burkett added that the CPP does not have purview over color and the recommendation was advisory only.

New Business

Application #25-07 from the Aurora Free Library for two A/C units at 370 Main Street (Tax Map #182.13-1-21)

Mr. Eckert described placing two additional A/C units on the east side of the building, under the fire escape, to cool the Morgan Opera House (second floor of the library). The unit to cool the library is located there, as well. The project is funded with a NY State grant and is awaiting final approval from SHPO for the second unit.

Mr. Burkett noted section 709.E of the Village Zoning Law as it refers to “ordinary maintenance”, which does not require CPP approval. The panel discussed previous, similar applications that they reviewed under the former zoning law but agreed that Application #25-07 appeared to meet the definition for Ordinary Maintenance in the new law. The panel instructed the clerk to confirm with County Planning Manager, Kari Terwilliger, that the CPP is interpreting the definition correctly.

On motion by MacCormick, second by Morehouse, the CPP voted to table approval until it is confirmed that Application #25-07 meets the criteria of ordinary maintenance in the Village Zoning Law and, if it does not, schedule a special meeting to vote on a Certificate of Appropriateness.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Recognition: The CPP recognized Chris MacCormick for his 20 years on the panel, appointed on March 2, 2005. We wish him well in his new home in Bath, Maine.

Adjournment: On motion by MacCormick, seconded by Morehouse, the CPP voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Balloni
Village Clerk