

Village of Lewiston  
Historical Preservation Commission

Minutes – Monday August 26, 2019

- CALL TO ORDER Ken Slaughenhoupt called the Historical Preservation Commission meeting to order at 5:59PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- PRESENT Ken Slaughenhoupt, Loretta Frankovitch, Rita Geiben, Jim Fittante, Susan Hofert Peter Coppins and, Deputy Treasurer Stephanie Myers
- MINUTES Loretta Frankovitch made a motion to approve the amended July 11, 2019 minutes. Rita Geiben seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- OLD BUSINESS
1. **418 PLAIN ST. APPLICATION 2019-15** – No Action
  2. **SIGN POLLUTION** – Lee Simonson was present to do a presentation on his report regarding the sign and wire pollution in the Village of Lewiston. Simonson presented a resolution that he wants the Village of Lewiston Historic Preservation commission to adopt and recommend to the Village Board of Trustees.

**VILLAGE OF LEWISTON REQUESTS STATE’S ASSISTANCE  
TO PRESERVE COMMUNITY’S HISTORICAL CHARACTER  
BY MAKING STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS AND REDUCING  
AND DOWNSIZING SIGNAGE**

**WHEREAS:** Lewiston citizens, businesses and local governments, have worked diligently over the past decades to establish a vibrant community that is renowned for its history and cultural assets, and

**WHEREAS:** Lewiston has received national recognition as one of the top small towns in America, and while Lewiston’s future is bright, it is critically important that we continually work on ways and means that will enhance our quality of life, and

**WHEREAS:** It is in the interest of economic development and local prosperity, that Lewiston preserves, protects and promotes its historical heritage and cultural assets, by ensuring that our community is free of extraneous signage and obtrusive visual pollution that can be distracting, unsightly, and confusing, and

**WHEREAS:** In order to accomplish our goals, as similar communities have done across the nation, we are looking to create a cooperative alliance with agencies and governments, including New York State, to help us reduce sign pollution in an effort to reduce clutter, adapt our infrastructure to be more historically compatible, soften aesthetics, and make our community more attractive, prosperous and safer, and

**WHEREAS:** The State of NY Department of Transportation intends to make improvements and resurface Center Street in Lewiston in 2021,

**SO THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** The Village Lewiston respectfully requests the advice and assistance of D.O.T. to help us improve our historical presence, cultural reputation and local economy, by consulting with the Village during the Center Street planning and design phase in an effort to:

- 1) Remove the large gantry at the entrance of Lewiston and replacing it with a smaller sign on the side of the road, and
- 2) Remove the crosswalk and signs located near the gantry, and replacing it with sidewalk pedestrian signs that urge pedestrians to cross at the 9th Street stoplight.
- 3) Review, redesign and consolidate the signage on Route 104 on Lewiston Hill.
- 4) Downsize and/or eliminate other signs along Center Street that may not be needed, are duplicative or can be reduced in size.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Cuomo; Frank Cirillo, Regional Director of NYSDOT; NY State Senator Robert Ortt; Assemblyman Angelo Morinello; and the Lewiston Town Board.

Susan Hofert made a motion to pass the Resolution as presented by Lee Simonson, Loretta Frankovitch seconded the motion. Secretary Myers polled the Commission with the following results:

<b>Susan Hofert: Yes</b>	<b>Loretta Frankovitch: Yes</b>
<b>Rita Geiben: Yes</b>	<b>Jim Fittante: Yes</b>
<b>Chairman Slaughenhoupt: Yes</b>	

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### **1. APPLICATION 2019-17 – 433 CENTER STREET – APPLE GRANNY**

Michael Burke – Co-owner of Apple Granny gave a brief presentation on the new sign that was already changed prior to the presentation.

Jim Fittante made a motion to approve Application 2019-17 for the sign at Apple Granny as presented. Rita Geiben seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**2. 415 CAYUGA STREET – Front Porch Reconstruction –** there was no representative present. There was also nothing submitted and the work was already complete. Chairman Slaughenhoupt asked Secretary Myers to put a memo in the property folder.

OTHER

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD**

Chairman Slaughenhoupt said he had received several communications regarding the actions taken by the Planning Commission and the Village Board of Trustees regarding the Gallo 2 and the CVS façade proposal. The concerns were that the façade are not consistent with the historic nature of the village.

**Chairman Slaughenhoupt read section 15-103G from the Village Code:**

(g)The commission shall also constitute the architectural review board and act as such board when reviewing and submitting recommendations pursuant to section 15-104(f).

**Chairman Slaughenhoupt read section 14-104f from the Village Code:**

(f)The commission shall review and submit its recommendations to the planning commission upon matters referred to them for their review by said commission. Such review shall concern the appropriateness of exterior architectural features, as defined in section 15-102, of buildings and structures, plans for the preservation, drives, parking and circulation, and other appropriate features. In reviewing a matter so referred, the commission shall apply the standards as set forth in section 10R of the zoning law (appendix B to this Code).

**Chairman Slaughenhoupt read Sec. 10-R-7 from Appendix B from the Village Code:**

d. The planning commission shall refer the application to the historic preservation commission acting in its capacity as the architectural advisory board as set forth in section 15-103(h) of the village Code for its review and recommendations.

Chairman Slaughenhoupt said the Planning commission does not have any requirement for an architect to sit on that commission. There is a requirement for 2 on the Historic Preservation Commission but currently there is only one. Therefore the law has set the Historic Preservation Commission up to be the Architectural Review Board. Chairman Slaughenhoupt stated that in his position that the Paladino project, Gallo 2, CVS Façade, and numerous other projects have never been referred to this commission and we have never had a chance to do an architectural review and it implies that the Historic Preservation Commission is not limited to protecting designated historic properties and designating new ones but have a further obligation to make sure that new construction in this village is consistent with the historic nature of the village.

Chairman Slaughenoupt stated that he wrote a personal letter regarding this matter from himself as a resident to Mayor Anne Welch. Chairman Slaughenoupt read the letter to the commission.

Loretta Frankovitch said that when she was on the Planning Commission David Giusiana brought up that the Planning Commission was also supposed to be the Architectural Review Board and he was told no, that he could not do it. This was when it was the Historic Preservation Planning Commission.

Peter Coppins said that as of right now we are spinning our wheels. I recommend that if the Mayor will not come to see us we should go to the board and request 10-15 minutes of their time.

### **ACADEMY PARK**

Chairman Slaughenoupt told the commission that Academy Park has been Historically Designated by the Village of Lewiston. Whatever happens in that park from here on out needs to come to this commission first.

Loretta Frankovitch said that if you want us to go to meetings with you just say the word.

**ADJOURNMENT** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Loretta Frankovitch and seconded by Rita Geiben. It passed unanimously and the meeting was called to a close at 6:52 PM

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Stephanie Myers Secretary