

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 16, 2012**

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Mark Sharp, Chairman
David Danois
Wendy Wright-Schaefer, Alternate 2

Absent:

Laly Espinoza Kuga, Vice Chairperson (excused)
Edward Potosnak III (excused)
Scott Lamperti (excused)
Curt Climes, Alternate 1 (excused)

Also present Attorney Deborah Bracaglia and recording secretary Stephanie Sherwood.

Call to order at 7:00 pm. Chairman Sharp read the Compliance Statement.

NEW APPLICATIONS

COA 01-10-16-2012, 59 Myrtle Avenue. Hilda Santana and Rolando Santana were sworn in. Ms. Santana explained that she would like to remove the stucco from the exterior of the house and install vinyl siding. She would also like to replace the wood window frames with aluminum.

Mr. Danois explained that Ms. Santana could remove all of the old stucco, install new wire lath and re-stucco the house.

Mr. Sharp opened the floor to comments from the audience regarding Application No. 01-10-16-2012 for 59 Myrtle Avenue.

Francine Gargano, 57 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, questioned why she did not receive notice from the applicant advising of their application; it was determined that Ms. Gargano's property is not within 200 feet of 59 Myrtle Avenue. Explaining that the Commission may not factor an applicant's cost for repairs into their decision making, the

speaker reminded that under current law the applicant may not put vinyl siding onto the house.

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, commented that the owners of 16 Willow Avenue and 104 Sycamore Avenue had to remove all of the stucco on their houses and replace it in order to remain in compliance with the ordinance. He urged the Commission to not approve the installation of vinyl siding on this house.

Steve Collinbeck, 44 Myrtle Avenue, North Plainfield, echoed the previous speakers' sentiments and urged the Commission to not allow for the installation of vinyl siding.

Mr. Sharp motioned that Application 01-10-16-2012 for 59 Myrtle Avenue as presented by Hilda Santana is denied. The Commission does not approve the removal of the stucco and the installation of vinyl siding.

Seconded by Mr. Danois and on Roll Call carried all three voting aye.

Chairman Sharp announced that the Certificate of Appropriateness would be ready within 7-10 business days.

COA 02-10-16-2012, 51 Willow Avenue. Reginald and Leslie McRae were sworn in. Mr. McRae explained that they would like to replace the front and side gables on the house in kind. They would like to enlarge the porch on the back of the house which will necessitate the closure of a window and the installation of French doors. They also need to repair the front corner porch on the house in kind.

Mr. Sharp opened the floor to comments from the audience regarding Application No. 02-10-16-2012 for 51 Willow Avenue.

Francine Gargano, 57 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, advised that windows are a part of the historic element of the house and spoke against the applicants closing one of the windows. Explaining that the law does not allow for the modernization of a house within the historic district, the speaker spoke against the installation of French doors to the back of the house.

Frank D'Amore, Sr., 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, suggested that the Commission reach out to the Attorney that drafted the Ordinance for clarification of the Ordinance.

Mr. Danois made a motion to approve Application No. 02-10-16-2012 for 57 Willow Avenue. Work to be done consists of the repair/replacement of the front and side gables

in kind; the installation of French doors in the rear of the house in lieu of the existing window; repair the front porch in kind; extend the back porch in the rear of the house as presented in the plans (see attached); rear porch in the back of the house will include columns and railings which will match the existing columns and railings on the front porch; no windows or doors to be changed or removed other than the window in the rear of the house which will be removed and replaced with French doors.

Seconded by Ms. Wright-Schaefer and on Roll Call carried all three voting aye.

Chairman Sharp advised Mr. and Mrs. McRae that the Certificate of Appropriateness would be ready within 7-10 business days.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the September 11, 2012 meeting were examined.

Chairman Sharp called for a Roll Call on the minutes:

Regular Meeting of September 11, 2012: All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank D'Amore, 40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, voiced his concerns regarding the garage doors at 167 Sycamore Avenue which do not conform to the Certificate of Appropriateness. Explaining that the Zoning Officer was made aware of the situation, the speaker requested that Chairman Sharp do everything in his power to ensure that the violation be corrected.

Francine Gargano, 57 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield, voiced her concerns regarding those homeowners within the Historic District who have done work to their homes without obtaining a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Wright-Schaefer, seconded by Mr. Danois and on voice vote carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.