

Minutes  
Historic Sign Review Committee  
June 22, 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kyle Blada, Lee Geiger, and Jim Jackson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pat Roseland, Clancy Kingsbury

STAFF PRESENT: Karen Bulman, Kip Harrington

OTHERS PRESENT: Eric Monroe

Blada called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

502-512 Main Street – Shops at Main Street Square – 4 Wall Signs and one Pedestrian Sign

**Geiger moved and Jackson seconded to approve the 4 wall signs and one Pedestrian Sign for Shops at Main Street Square at 502-512 Main Street.** Geiger indicated that there may be better ways to give the signs some elegance. In response to a question by Geiger, Monroe indicated that the signs are to be red channel letters with red neon lighting. Monroe stated that the pedestrian signs in the vacated alley are allowed through an approved variance and there will be a need for additional pedestrian signage in the future. Jackson stated he would support the neon signs, but could not support adding any plastic covering over the neon signs. In response to a question by Geiger regarding the heavy block font, Monroe stated that buildings in the 1940-50's had that font style. Monroe indicated that the pedestrian sign will be a blue internally lit sign. Jackson indicated that plastic signs did not begin until the 1970's. Geiger stated that creating interior lit signs produces a precedent for plastic covered interior lit signs that are not historically accurate on downtown buildings. Discussion followed on the possible congestion of pedestrian signage in the alley and the number of signs that are located on the building. Monroe stated that the original pedestrian sign for the Perfect Hanging Gallery was an internally lit plastic sign, but the applicant has not obtained the sign permit for this sign. Monroe further stated that the applicant is now requesting that the sign be modified, but continuing to be internally lit. Jackson stated he cannot support the florescent plastic covered signs. Geiger stated that in 1978, there were many plastic signs in the downtown area and a study was completed to make changes to the downtown signage that would create better signage and eliminate internally lit signs. Geiger indicated that the internally lit pedestrian sign should not be allowed and any internally lit signs, previously allowed, should not have been allowed. Geiger stated that signs need to be readable, and it appears that with the proposed font, the Main Street signage could be one large red band. Monroe indicated that the directory sign is not effective. Jackson stated that he can support the pedestrian sign without lighting it internally. Jackson further indicated that the individual letters for the Main Street shops will put many holes in the building and will be expensive. Jackson suggested that a raceway for the letters will eliminate some of the many holes and have less damage to the building. **Jackson made a substitute motion to continue the 4 wall signs to the next meeting on July 6, 2012, to allow the applicant to provide additional information on a design that will include a raceway for the letters. The motion was seconded by Geiger, and passed unanimously. Jackson moved, Geiger seconded and passed unanimously, that the pedestrian sign be denied as an internally lit sign, but approved the sign without lighting.** Jackson stated that

he understood that the signs on the building were originally to be lit by external lighting shining on the signs.

Minutes

**Jackson moved, Geiger seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2011 meeting.**

Other

The meeting dates and times were discussed. There was a consensus that there may be some inconvenience to members of the Historic Preservation Commission members if they have to wait to start their meeting when the Historic Sign Review Committee goes beyond the proposed half hour. The 7 am time was also not preferred by some members of the Historic Sign Review Committee. Bulman stated that if the times and dates are changed and there begins to be a problem, the Committee should inform staff members or Director Brett Limbaugh.

Blada adjourned the meeting at 9:38 am.