



Historic & Architectural Review Board

Meeting
May 16, 2017 4:30 P.M.

I. Call to Order

Barbara Jones: I'd like to call to order the HARB meeting for Tuesday, May 16, 2017. Call to order, that's it.

II. Roll Call

Barbara Jones: Can we have a roll call, Amy, please?

PRESENT:

BARBARA JONES, VICE CHAIRMAN
BARBARA CIAMPINI, DIRECTOR
LEE CALISTI, SECRETARY
JACKIE JOHNS
MARC SCURCI
LOU DEROSE, SOLICITOR

ABSENT:

STEVE GIFFORD, CHAIRMAN
LYNN ARMBRUST

III. Approval of April 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Barbara Jones: The minutes were sent via email. Can we have an approval, or do we have any changes or amendments to the meeting minutes? No? Okay, can we have an approval of those?

Marc Scurci: I'll make that.

Barbara Jones: Okay.

Lee Calisti: Second.

Barbara Jones: Thank you. Meeting minutes approved for April 18, 2017.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

Barbara Jones: We have no old business.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

239 East Pittsburgh St

Property Owner: John McCullough

Applicant: Thrift Hardware

Project: Signage

Barbara Jones: 239 East Pittsburgh Street. That would be John. Could you come to the podium, please? State your name and spell it, please, for Amy.

John McCullough: Yes, it's John McCullough. M-C-C-U-L-L-O-U-G-H.

Barbara Jones: Everything will be up on the screen for you to look at.

John McCullough: Okay. Hi, my name is John McCullough, and I'm the owner of *Ace Hardware* in Greensburg. Originally, I took over the building ownership in 2010. I opened in 2011, and at that time we had designed some signage for the front of the building, which we never installed, because I was concerned about the fascia stone and the structure of how it would hold the sign. So, I kind of grappled with what other options could we come up with that are not—to the right you can see around the window area that's limestone, I believe, so trying to come up with something—there you go. Something that wouldn't touch on that stone, because I'm afraid that with the age of it—it was built in the 1920s. So, I came up with the idea of possibly putting something on the side of the building above where we have our bagged goods in the photo there; structurally better, brick work. We still get visibility down Pittsburgh Street, but not from the other direction. It's pretty cluttered coming in from the other side even if we put a front sign there. We had banners approved; you can see a banner sticking out there. That was supposed to be temporary in 2011. I was hoping that we could replace that with something along the side. We still need improvements along the front to kind of dress it up there, but that's kind of my request.

Barbara Ciampini: You have that cool monument sign too.

John McCullough: Yes, that was approved as a part of the original plan. Where the photo is taken from there is an *Ace* monument sign, which we repurposed some of the stone from the front and built it. So, what I'd like to do is install an *Ace Hardware* sign on the side. It's an LED sign; individual letters. You can see it in the picture. The dimensions are all there. Are there any more questions that you have for me?

Barbara Jones: So, it's just the letters that are illuminated and it's all white?

John McCullough: White LED, yes. It's pretty much a standard sign that we use on all of the other stores.

Barbara Ciampini: Yes.

John McCullough: I use that at my New Kensington and Kittanning stores; identical.

Marc Scurci: It's clean cut. Is each letter attached to the brick wall?

John McCullough: No, not each individually. They are attached to a channel.

Marc Scurci: Oh, I see.

Barbara Ciampini: They look like they are individual.

John McCullough: Yes, because it is painted. We are going to paint it the same color and make it blend the best we can. Make it look as nice as we can.

Barbara Jones: It will be nice having something on that side for identification.

John McCullough: It will help. You don't want to overdo it, but again I would like to have something in the front of the building, but it's so—there's a light poles there, there's wire—

Barbara Ciampini: It's very congested.

John McCullough: Very congested, so I don't know what other alternatives there are, but I'm open to other suggestions.

Barbara Ciampini: Yes, maybe if you put something higher further up from where that *Ace* banner is, you know higher up on the façade.

John McCullough: I think to do it on the front I'd almost have to anchor a pole in the sidewalk to do that, because I can't anchor anything on that front.

Barbara Ciampini: Oh, okay.

John McCullough: That stone is so old that I'm almost afraid to touch it. That's where the original *Nash Car Dealership* sign was sitting in the middle of that.

Barbara Ciampini: Yes, right.

John McCullough: We have some original photos someone gave to us, a very nice lady that showed all of the signage. We have done some of the original project too, but we're happy to be there and have the doors open for business.

Barbara Jones: So, how is the banner attached to the front of the building? Is it a projecting pole?

John McCullough: It's a pole, yes, and it's not a good situation.

Barbara Ciampini: Yes, it's way lighter.

John McCullough: I'd like to lose that if I could, because of the wind. There's a lot of wind shear coming down through that area, so it's a constant battle with re-bracketing. It's tied into the old door frame, so everything is old. So that's kind of the plan.

Barbara Jones: Okay.

John McCullough: Any other questions for me?

Barbara Ciampini: I make a recommendation that we make an approval as presented.

Barbara Jones: Can I have a second?

Marc Scurci: I'll do that.

Barbara Jones: Okay, Marc, with the second. All in favor?

Everyone: Aye.

Barbara Jones: So you can start, what is the date, Barb?

Barbara Ciampini: Council will meet on June 12th.

Barbara Jones: Okay, so June 13th.

Barbara Ciampini: June 13th you can start. We can get everything ready and you can put the sign up.

Lee Calisti: Barbara, I need to recuse myself.

Barbara Jones: Oh, that's right. Excuse me, does anyone wish to abstain?

Barbara Ciampini: I forgot.

Lee Calisti: John is my client, and I'm the architect on record for the building, so I abstain.

Barbara Jones: Sorry, I forgot the abstained part. Motion to recommend approval to City Council passed by majority vote and one abstention.

John McCullough: Thank you very much.

Barbara Ciampini: Thanks, John.

416 East Pittsburgh St

Property Owner: AJ Aberman Inc.

Applicant: Pittsburgh Sign & Lighting

Project: Signage

Barbara Jones: Okay, next 416 East Pittsburgh Street; AJ Aberman Inc. Same thing, if you could say and spell your name please.

Eric Sepe: My name is Eric Sepe, last name is S as in Sam, E Edward, P Paul, E Edward. I'm with *Pittsburgh Sign and Lighting*, representing *One Main Financial*. They were bought out by *Springleaf Financial*—or *Springleaf* was bought out by *One Main*. Basically all we are doing is taking down the *Springleaf* letters and putting up the *One Main* letters. Again, they're going to be LED illuminated. The façade will be painted to match the color they specified for me, so that will get repainted and patched when we remove the existing sign. Installing the *One Main* sign is actually going to be a little bit smaller than the *Springleaf*, so we're not exceeding any of the square footage.

Barbara Ciampini: Your project is easy to understand.

Barbara Jones: So, again, you're just painting that sign area that gray color or whatever that background is?

Eric Sepe: Yes, basically we'll paint lease line to lease line, patch the holes with paintable caulk and then reinstall the new *One Main Financial* letters.

Barbara Jones: That's it? Okay.

Eric Sepe: Hook it up to the existing electric. We're basically just changing the name.

Barbara Jones: It looks good to me.

Barbara Ciampini: Okay, I recommend approval as presented.

Marc Scurci: Before you do I want to—did we talk about lighting the sign?

Barbara Ciampini: They're all LED. It's part of the plaza. Remember they have a comprehensive sign plan that they follow.

Marc Scurci: Okay.

Eric Sepe: The current sign there now is LED illuminated. Basically they just bought out *Springleaf*, so we're just converting over to the new name.

Barbara Jones: Alright, can I have a recommendation?

Barbara Ciampini: I recommend approval.

Lee Calisti: I'll second.

Barbara Jones: Alright, Lee seconds. All in favor?

Everyone: Aye.

Barbara Jones: Alright, motion carries. Thank you, Eric.

Barbara Ciampini: Before we adjourn I'd just like to say on the record, that I'd like to thank Jackie for her years of service on the Historic and Architectural Review Board. This is her last meeting. She is moving out of the City. We're happy for you though.

Jackie Johns: Aw, thank you.

Barbara Ciampini: Thank you for serving your community.

Jackie Johns: Sure. It's been a learning opportunity and very interesting.

Barbara Ciampini: Thanks very much. I've always enjoyed working with you, Jackie.

Jackie Johns: Sure.

Barbara Jones: Alright, we are adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 4:41pm.