

City of Cambridge
Historic Preservation Commission Minutes
October 19th, 2022

Present: Chairman Vojtech, Vice Chairperson Morgan, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Lake (remotely), Carlene Shaw and Pat Escher- Planning Staff

Chairman Vojtech began the meeting with the request to move the Consent Agenda item for 208 Glenburn Avenue to be a full review item at the end of the meeting. All Commissioners agreed.

Chairman Vojtech swore in all applicants and their representatives.

Consent Agenda

- **314 Willis Street- Brick front walkway construction**

Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the application as submitted. Vice Chairperson Morgan seconded. All in favor.

HPC Review

1. HPC 2023 – 25 824 Locust Street- Harriet Tubman Mural

Ms. Escher began the discussion by giving some background on the mural. She stated that the City was aware when the mural began to be painted, but did not issue a Stop Work Order and allowed the mural to continue to be painted. This was because there are no formal written guidelines on murals at this time. There are two existing murals that have gone through the review process through HPC, but typically recommendations from HPC are design based and are not stringent. The City requested that the applicant comes forward with a complete proposal to discuss the overall design of the mural, just like how the murals on Poplar Street had.

Ms. Shaw summarized the design and layout of the mural, and Ms. Teresa Lamar (applicant) presented her ideas to the Commission. She stated that they are planning on somehow connecting the Harriet Tubman mural on the side façade of the building to the ‘Love Thy Neighbor’ quote on the front of the building. At that time, she did not have a rendering of what that would look like.

and the siding (cream Dutch lap vs painted clapboard) .The text of the email from the homeowner to C. Shaw is below.

*"Good Morning Carlene,
Attached are photos of the gutters at 213 Belvedere Ave which are going to be replaced with the exact gutter materials. If you have any questions please let me know. Thank you
Karen Leonard"*

- 6) On 2 August C.Shaw responded to the homeowner K. Leonard that she noticed that 213 Belvedere Ave has round gutters and that she can (is able to) administratively approve round gutters (not K style) once the specific round gutters are to be installed are specified.
- 7) K-Style gutters were installed sometime between the 2 August and 8 August. The homeowner supplied a receipt which stated that the gutters were installed on 2 August.
- 8) The relevant issues with the case are that in April the homeowners representative was informed that round gutters were required. On 1 August an application was received which was not factual. On 2 August C. Shaw emailed the homeowner that half round gutters were required. The homeowner had K style gutters installed. Neither HPC nor DPW gave permission to the homeowner for gutter installation. To this date gutter installation has not been approved other than half round gutters. No COA has been issued for this address regarding gutter installation.

Mr. Bob Leonard, as well as Mrs. Karen Leonard and Mr. Donald Gray stated that there were k-style gutters on the property before installation of the new gutters and that they installed the new gutters the day they submitted an application to Staff.

Chairman Vojtech made a motion to close the floor to public comment. Comm. Smith seconded. All in favor.

Chairman Vojtech made a motion for the applicant to remove the existing k-style gutters and to replace with round style gutters, except if they submit picture proof that k-style gutters were on the house previously. Comm. Smith seconded. All in favor.

3. HPC 2023 – 26 201 West End Avenue- Front porch railing installation

Ms. Shaw shared that porch and stair railings were installed at this property without permission. The design is compatible with other railings found within the Historic District.

Chairman Vojtech made a motion to close the floor to public comment. Comm. Smith seconded. All in favor.

Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the application as submitted. Vice Chairperson Morgan seconded. All in favor.

Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the application as submitted, with the request of additionally submitting a picture of the entire right façade of the home. Vice Chairperson Morgan seconded. All in favor.

8. 208 Glenburn Avenue- Back step replacement

Ms. Shaw explained that Code Enforcement noticed that the rear entrance at this property was being replaced without HPC or a building permit. The applicant is requesting official HPC approval (after the fact) to replace the back steps in a similar design. The applicant reused the original railings and rebuilt the stairs with pressure treated wood. The applicant will not add siding to the staircase.

Comm. Smith made a motion to close the floor to public comment. Chairman Vojtech seconded. All in favor.

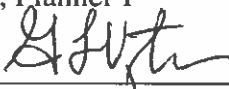
Chairman Vojtech made a motion to approve the application as submitted. Comm. Smith seconded. All in favor.

9. HPC 2023 – 29 201 Mill Street- Informal review of renovations of the School Building

Ms. Katie Clendaniel (applicant) presented a Powerpoint discussing the history of the Mill Street School property and the proposed improvements to the School Building to accommodate one and two-bedroom apartment development. Questions from the Commissioners related to lighting, the space between the handicap ramp and the rear façade, balconies, compatibility with the neighborhood, and mechanical equipment.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carlene Shaw, Planner I

Signature: 
HPC Chairman- George Vojtech

Date: 21-DEC-2022