

WEST CHICAGO HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION

July 23, 2013

Approve at the August 27, 2013 meeting.

Members Present:

Janet Hale
Cheryl Waterman
Blake Kennedy
Garth Keck

Staff:

John Said
Jeff Harris

Guests

Members Absent

Richard Vigsnes

Father John Balluff
Jeff Stibal
Dan Racz
Bev Kennedy
Eileen Shipp
Bill Shipp
Vince Molina

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

2. Certificate of Appropriateness Review

a. 417-419 E. Washington St.

On the porch on the west side of the building, a door and window were removed, the door opening was closed off and a new door with side lights placed where the window had been. Much of the siding had been replaced before the City's code enforcement staff caught them, and stopped work because of lack of building permit or COA. The window that was removed was a Queen Anne window with a transom that was believed to be considered a significant architectural feature. The property as a whole is also considered significantly contributing to the East Washington Historic District, as it is one of seven specific residences within the district to be given this designation. As no photos of the window were available, a motion to table until the meeting on August 27th to conduct additional research was made by Commissioner Keck, second by Commissioner Kennedy. The motion passed by an all aye vote.

b. 101 E. Washington St.

The property and business owner, Vince Molina, is requesting approval of the aesthetic aspect of the installation of a rooftop air conditioning unit. The unit would be placed approximately 25 feet from Washington St. and 30 feet from the front of the building on the Fremont St. side. A standard A/C pad would be placed underneath. Mr. Molina was to make a parapet wall of the same brick as the building, but was convinced to erect a screen instead to fade into the background. A motion was made to allow the A/C unit made by Commissioner Waterman, second by Commissioner Keck.

The motion passed with an all aye vote, with screening to be presented at the next meeting.

3. Preliminary Review

a. 116 Galena St.

A memo from John Fincham was presented in regard to this property. The roof, rafters and top plates are structurally sound. There are electrical hazards on the lower level. on the second floor, there are large piles of bird droppings that are a significant health hazard. Also a vent needs to be screened to keep the birds out. A thirty day compliance notice was mailed to the property owner, Gil Valenzuela, on July 23, 2013 to fix these issues. The City could possibly give financial assistance to clean up violations, such as a loan or lien payable on the sale of the property.

4. Historical District/Landmark Update

151 W. Washington Street is placed on the agenda of the Development Committee on August 12, 2013.

5. Approval of Minutes

None.

6. Other Business

a. Main Street/Turner Court stairway renovations update

The work is proceeding on the new stair rails, as approved by the Commission.

b. Main St. pedestrian tunnel renovation update

The tunnel entrances have been torn out and will be replaced.

c. Fremont St. parking lot construction update

The parking lot is pretty much completed. Two streetlights will be installed soon.

7. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Keck, seconded by Commissioner Kennedy. The motion passed with an all aye vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.