

# CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 6/28/16

## MINUTES

### WEST CHICAGO HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 24, 2016, 7:00 P.M.

#### Members Present:

Rev. Bill Andrews  
Blake Kennedy  
Vincent Malina (President *pro tem*)  
Richard Vigsnes  
Cheryl Waterman

#### Staff:

John Said  
Jeff Harris  
Sara Phalen

#### Members Absent:

Nancy Reppie

#### Guests:

Ernie DiFiore  
Andrew Schwab

#### 1. Call to Order, Roll Call and establishment of a Quorum.

A quorum was established. Commissioner Malina sat in as President *pro tem* for the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### 2. Certificate of Appropriateness Review

##### a. 108 Galena St. – C.O.A. 16-07

The business owner is seeking approval of new storefront signage and after-the-fact approval of an awning replacement. The owner is proposing an eleven (11) square foot blue and white “swoosh” in the left window pane; as well as white lettering for the owner’s name and phone number (three square feet). The storefront signage will be vinyl and adhered to the exterior of the glass. The owner is also seeking approval for an eight (8) square foot illuminated sign above the front door. The sign will consist of ten (10) inch white channel lettering, in addition to a blue and white “hands” corporate logo. This sign will have an aluminum backer panel to hide previous damage to the building’s façade. The owner is also seeking approval for white vinyl lettering and “hands” logo on the exterior of the entry door. Lastly, the owner is seeking approval for the previously replaced awning, requesting after-the-fact approval. The existing metal frame was used, but the canvas skin was replaced to match the company colors. The new awning is blue with white lettering.

The Commission's policy is to allow no more than twenty (20) percent of total window space for signage, which in this case is twenty-seven (27) square feet. The owner is proposing eighteen (18) square feet of window signage. Collectively, the window and wall signage allowed for this property—per the City's Sign Code—is forty-two (42) square feet. The proposed area of the window, wall and awning signage is thirty-six and a half (36.5) square feet; therefore the proposed signage complies with the sign regulations. A motion to approve as presented was made by Commissioner Malina and seconded by Commissioner Vignes. The motion carried with an all aye vote.

**b. 402 E. Washington St. – C.O.A. 16-08**

The property owner is seeking approval to install a six (6) foot tall board on board privacy fence between the southwest corner of the residence and the northwest corner of the detached garage. This fence will be in addition to the proposed privacy fencing that was approved by the Commission at the April 26, 2016 meeting. A motion to approve as presented was made by Commissioner Waterman and seconded by Commissioner Andrews. The motion carried with an all aye vote.

**3. Preliminary Review**

None.

**4. Historic District / Landmark Update**

**a. 116 Galena Street – Carriage House Restoration**

After seeking out the West Chicago Historical Society, the property owner has been in contact with Community Development Director, John Said, in regards to donating the structure to the Historical Society. With no plans by the Historical Society in acquiring the structure, nor any further decisions for restoration, demolition could be petitioned. If the latter becomes inevitable, City Museum Curator, Sara Phalen, wishes to salvage some of the stone material for a possible future project.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

**a. April 26, 2016**

A motion to approve the Minutes as presented was made by Commissioner Andrews and seconded by Commissioner Malina. The motion carried with three aye votes and two abstentions by Commissioners Kennedy and Waterman.

**6. Other Business**

**a. Neon Sign Regulations**

After much deliberation, the Commission has decided to individually create their own mock-up neon sign regulations, which will be submitted to City Planner, Jeff Harris. Mr. Harris will combine each commissioner's submission, before drafting a version of the regulations, in which the Commission will discuss at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**b. Resignation letter of Commission President Janet Hale**

After the sudden resignation of President Hale, the Commission proposed that the City acknowledge the former President with a proclamation for her invaluable hard work and dedication to the efforts of preserving local history over the span of nineteen (19) years. Jeff Harris will send this recommendation to Mayor Ruben Pineda and City Administrator, Michael Guttman. Mayor Pineda also has the job of appointing a chairman as president to fill the now vacant spot on the Commission.

**7. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Andrews and seconded by Commissioner Waterman. The motion carried with an all aye vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.