

VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM

FOUNDED 1853



Historic Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 23, 2024 – 6:30 PM

Present: Ken Nelson-Chair, Cody Schreck, Marilyn Cushing, Kathy Pentler

Absent: Amy Russell

Staff: Brent Bristol- Administrator, Andrea Collak-Clerk/Treasurer

Guests: BD Thorp, Michael McCutcheon, Monique McClean, Andrew Bartelt, Matt Meacham, Grace Held

1. **Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Ken Nelson – Chair at 6:42 PM.
2. **Quorum:** A quorum is present for this meeting.
3. **Changes in Agenda:** None
4. **Visitors' comments:** None
5. **Previous minutes:** Minutes from 11/28/2023

Schreck moved, Cushing seconded to approve HPC minutes from November 28, 2023, as presented, all ayes, and the motion carried.

6. **Ephraim Travel Rentals LLC – 3038 Spruce St – Faceprint Change- Design Review**

Bristol noted that this application was before the HPC and Plan Committee at the last meeting. The owners of the property were looking to change the decking to gray composite decking and the railing to aluminum matt bronze railing. Bristol reported that while the decking material was approved both committees rejected the railing material and asked the applicant to come back with different, more wood-like-looking options for the railing.

This is a rental property. The owner of the property said that they were having a code issue with doing a spindle-type system. They would like to keep metal railing from a safety and liability standpoint. The contractor and vendor believe that metal would not only be a stronger, safer, but also maintenance-free product.

The owners decided to switch the color of the decking from gray to dark teak. They were wondering if they could keep the aluminum matt bronze railing but put what is called a drink rail cap on the railing to break up the concern for too much metal. It is a piece of decking put over the top to mimic a wood top. The dark teak color of the drink rail cap and the bronze/brown color of the railing would tie into the architecture of the home itself.

Pentler thinks that the drink rail cap will make it blend better. Pentler also likes matching decking better. Schreck is not comfortable with approving metal bronze railing. Schreck feels that the owner took the metal railing that was denied and put a wood cap on it. Schreck does not believe bronze railing meets the ordinance. Cushing and Nelson agreed with Schreck. There is too much metal, and it is obvious from the road. A piece of decking would not do the trick. They would like to see more wood-like looking material/color, not the square bronze railing, especially with the existing log siding of the home. The railing should fit into the aesthetics of the existing log design. Bristol said that it is very rare to pursue actual wood for any type of material due to maintenance aspects.

Pentler moved, Schreck seconded to recommend the denial of the Faceprint Change, Design Review application for the Railing to the Plan Committee for Ephraim Travel Rentals LLC at 3038 Spruce Street and ask the owner to rethink the material of the railing, all ayes, and the motion carried.

7. Discussion regarding EHF historic marker signage

Schreck said that the Ephraim Historical Foundation (EHF) would like to put up some free-standing roadside brass historical markers on their properties that would be visible from the road. They are looking for permission to do this project on their private properties such as the Anderson Barn, Anderson Store, Pioneer School House, and Iverson House. Schreck presented the committee with potential locations and orientations of brass historical markers. The markers are too big, and they will need to be amended. When the ordinance was written it put a maximum size of a memorial plaque at a foot and a half square foot or have a single dimension of 18 inches.

Schreck noted that there is an interested donor, Diane Taillon, who would like to help fund this project. Schreck would like to include the marker at her location, at the Hillside. The location needs to be clarified and included in the packet for the HPC and Plan Committee.

Pentler is concerned about the proposed location being too close to the road. Schreck noted that the historical markers will have to be located outside of the right-of-way.

Cushing loves the idea of providing information to people. Nelson would like to look at four originally proposed historical markers and locations first: Anderson Barn, Anderson Store, Iverson House, and Pioneer School House. Schreck agreed.

8. New Business for Next Meeting: None

9. Adjournment

Schreck moved, Pentler seconded to adjourn the Historic Preservation Committee Meeting at 7:00 PM, all ayes, and the motion carried.

Recorded by

Andrea Collak- Clerk/Treasurer