

**Oak Park Historic Preservation Commission
January 13, 2022 – Meeting Minutes
Remote Participation Meeting, 7:30 pm**

Roll Call

Present: Chair Noel Weidner and Commissioners Asha Andriana, Sarah Doherty, Andrew Elders, Lou Garapolo, Rebecca Houze, and Daniel Roush
Absent: Commissioners Monique Chase, Nicole Napper, and Rachel Will
Staff: Susie Trexler, Historic Preservation Urban Planner

Agenda Approval

*Motion by Commissioner Garapolo to approve the agenda. Second by Commissioner Houze.
Motion approved 7-0.*

Non-Agenda Public Comment

None

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Garapolo to approve the minutes for December 9, 2021. Second by Commissioner Houze. Motion approved 7-0.

Regular Agenda

- A. HPC2021-56: 227 N Lombard Ave (Trent and Michele Jurewicz):** Certificate of Appropriateness to add a chimney and dormer addition, part of a larger project previously approved December 9, 2021 with condition of final review (Ridgeland-Oak Park Historic District).

Chair Weidner introduced the application. Planner Trexler gave an overview. She said this project was previously reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) on December 9, 2021. At that meeting, the HPC unanimously approved the project with the condition that the applicant return for final approval on two items: (1) the cladding material proposed for the external chimney, for which brick was recommended, and (2) the side of the windows on the dormer addition.

Bill Scholtens, the architect, was present. Mr. Scholtens explained the decisions made in created the brick fireplace alternative, which is largely based on a nearby house at Scoville and Superior. They will use reclaimed, historic red brick. He described the dormer and the two window alternatives and said they prefer Option A, which has a little less siding.

Motion by Commissioner Garapolo to open for discussion; Second by Commissioner Doherty.

Commissioner Garapolo thanked Mr. Scholtens for returning and doing some additional studies. He said he likes the brick chimney and pointed out that the house on Scoville also has a similar dormer solution to Option A. He said he would be in favor of that larger window with the same relationship between the sill and the edge of the roof.

Commissioner Doherty said she likes the look of the brick fireplace. She noted the 1922 advertisement and provided some historical context. She said this was a transitional period when most homes had central heat so fireplaces were often built but were ornamental. They were often listed in the advertisements. She pointed out that only one of the ads on the page states “real fireplace” so this one might not historically have been a working fireplace.

Commissioner Houze said she appreciates the inclusion of the 1922 ad. She agreed with Commissioner Garapolo about the brick chimney and said she likes that it will be salvaged brick. She says she doesn't have a strong feeling about the dormer and would defer to other Commissioners. Commissioner Roush said he agrees Option A seems a little better but they both seem appropriate.

Commissioner Andriana said she prefers the larger windows (Option A) and appreciates the salvaged brick. Commissioner Elders asked about the existing chimney brick type and Mr. Scholtens said it is common underneath but red brick above. Commissioner Elders said this is not a requirement, but it would be nice to match the brick to the existing chimney. Mr. Scholtens agreed.

Chair Weidner said he appreciates the use of reclaimed brick and wondered if common brick would be strong enough. Mr. Scholtens confirmed they would use red-faced brick. Chair Weidner said he wanted to make sure they weren't doing a thin brick. Mr. Scholtens confirmed and said it will be a wood-burning, full masonry fireplace. Chair Weidner said he likes Option A as well and appreciates that they explored the options and provided elevations as well as perspective drawings.

Motion by Commissioner Garapolo to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the project with the use of dormer windows Option A. Second by Commissioner Houze. Motion approved 7-0.

AYE: Commissioner Andriana, Commissioner Doherty, Commissioner Elders, Commissioner Garapolo, Commissioner Houze, Commissioner Roush, and Chair Weidner

NAY: None

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Unity Temple Restoration Foundation Vintage Home Show:** April 9, 2022

Chair Weidner said the Unity Temple Restoration Foundation will be hosting a Vintage Home Show in April. He explained some of the details. Planner Trexler noted that if Commissioners are interested in volunteering, they should contact Chair Weidner.

- **New Commissioners**

Chair Weidner introduced Commissioner Roush. The Commissioners each introduced themselves and provided their background.

ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Garapolo to adjourn; Second by Commissioner Doherty. Motion approved 7-0.

AYE: Commissioner Andriana, Commissioner Doherty, Commissioner Elders, Commissioner Garapolo, Commissioner Houze, Commissioner Roush, and Chair Weidner

NAY: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:05PM.

Minutes prepared by Susie Trexler, Historic Preservation Urban Planner.