

**The City of Auburn**  
**Historic Resources Review Board**  
c/o Office of Planning and Economic Development  
Memorial City Hall-24 South St.  
Auburn, NY 13021  
(315)255-4115

**Meeting Minutes**  
June 13, 2023  
Council Chambers

Present: Michael Deming (Chair), Tracy Verrier, Mitch Maniccia, Jackie Guntow  
Jim Hutchinson, Ed Onori, Richard Stankus

Staff: Jennifer Haines, Director, Office of Planning and Economic Development;  
Nate Garland, Corporation Counsel

**Michael Deming:** Opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion to accept the meeting minutes of May 9, 2023 made by Richard Stankus, second by **Jackie Guntow**. All in favor, Aye, none opposed, motion carried.

**Public to be heard.**

None.

**Certificate(s) of Appropriateness**

**1. 37 Grover Street, Michael and Teresa Gambuzza**

Michael Gambuzza outlined his proposed project to install rear fencing on the western and northern sides of the property, and into the northwest rear corner of the barn, as well as a driveway gate. In addition, the following improvements are proposed for the barn: (1) stabilize and rebuild rotted eastern portion; (2) roof, decking and fascia; and (3) replace oversize overhead garage door with barn sliders.

The HRRB discussed the application, and the owner clarified a few questions. There was some discussion about whether to require a wrought iron gate across the driveway, but the consensus from the Board was to allow the gate as proposed in the application.

**Mitch Maniccia** made a motion to approve the application. **Seconded by Jim Hutchinson.**

**Michael Deming:** Further discussion? All in favor? Aye, none opposed, motion carried.

## **2. 203 Genesee Street, Cayuga Museum – Site Plan Referral**

Jenny Haines referenced the memo sent by Stephen Selvek, Deputy Director of Community Planning and Development. The Planning Board received site plan review applications for the West End Arts Campus project, which includes two adjoining properties: Cayuga Museum at 203 Genesee Street and Schweinfurth Art Center at 205 Genesee Street. Cayuga Museum is listed as a local landmark, and the Auburn Zoning Code requires that site plan applications for local landmarks be referred to the HRRB for review and comment / recommendations with respect to any potential impacts to the historic resource for the Planning Board to consider as part of its review of the site plan.

Richard Osgood of Bero Architecture, PLLC, presented the elements of the site plan to the HRRB. He also mentioned that he would be submitting a Certificate of Appropriateness application to the HRRB for the July meeting related to a couple repair items on the exterior of the museum, including the fire escape.

HRRB Board members provided the following comments:

- Mike Deming asked how the Cayuga Museum project connected with the Schweinfurth. Richard Osgood pointed out the sidewalk connection on the site plan, as well as the staircase in between the carriage house and the corner of the Case Research Lab. There is also a connection through Schweinfurth's driveway.
- Jackie Guntow asked a question about bringing everyone in from Orchard Street and then out to Washington Street. Richard Osgood clarified that the driveway is only for handicapped accessible traffic, as well as occasional deliveries. Jackie was asking why the traffic wouldn't go the opposite way so that disabled individuals could be dropped off to the museum. Richard said that it is deliberately one way to control traffic and maximize the site, and to make parking available in the two accessible parking spaces that will be open.
- Richard Stankus asked whether the historic wrought iron fence which has a missing piece is going to be addressed. Kirsten Gosch, Executive Director of the Cayuga Museum, told the Board that the museum is having a conditions survey prepared for the fence. The museum has the missing piece, and there are plans for a future project, but it is not in the scope of the DRI project. Richard Stankus asked whether there has been any consideration to extending the fence beyond the current location. There are not plans to extend the fencing in front of the Schweinfurth; each entity will continue to operate separately, and the campuses will be connected in the other ways outlined on the site plan.
- Mitch Maniccia asked if the project had been submitted to SHPO yet. Richard Osgood said that it typically done at end of design development. They have wrapped up the architectural items on building within the last week, and with Kirsten's approval, will submit to SHPO within a couple of days. The hope is to have SHPO's answer by the next HRRB meeting.
- Tracy Verrier referenced the SHPO letter in the packet, which Richard clarified was prepared during the concept design as part of the DRI process. SHPO needs to be re-engaged now that the design is complete.

- Richard Stankus asked whether there will be any security measures, as it is something that should be considered. Richard Osgood said that there will be site lighting that will assist with security.
- Tracy Verrier asked about the cobblestone in front of the Carriage House. Richard Osgood that it will be replaced with brick pavers. The cobblestone is in rough shape right now, and needs to be replaced. Cobblestone is not original to the location.

These comments will be provided to the Planning Board for consideration as part of the Site Plan review at their July meeting.

### **3. National Park Service Presentation – Harriet Tubman National Historical Park, Thompson Memorial AME Zion Church site on Parker Street**

Ahna Wilson, Superintendent of the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park and the Womens' Rights National Historical Park, provided the HRRB and the public an update on the National Park Service's progress on the restoration of the Thompson Memorial AME Zion Church site on Parker Street. This site will serve as the local offices for the National Park Service, and is part of the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park.

### **Other Business**

None

Motion to adjourn made by **Tracy Verrier** and seconded by **Richard Stankus**. All in favor, Aye, none opposed, motion carried.

### **Adjourn**

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 7 pm.