

GLOUCESTER HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

April 14, 2015

Conference Room, City Hall

Members Present: D. Porper, S. Miller, S. Goodick, C. Nazarian

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by **Chairman Porper**.

The First Item on the agenda was a petition for a Certificate of Appropriateness to regarding restoration and reconstruction work proposed for the house at **45 Middle Street** (map 7, lot 70). The description of the proposed work: Restore left and right side rear porches and railings including re-squaring of rear left (East) porch; rebuild fire escape as-needed; restore trim, fascia, singles & clapboards as-needed. Repaint to match existing color scheme. Petitioners were the owners Arley and Barrett Pett who made the presentation.

D. Porper notes the Victorian house on Middle Street as a landmark that formerly well-restored.

A. Pett describes the Victorian with a distinctive round tower as having a rear deck that was rotted by proximity to a tree. He explained the proposal to restore the deck to its former squared-off shape, restoring the fascia, balustrade, brickwork and trim. He also describes the proposal to repair the fire escape.

B. Pett explains further the plan to re-shingle the turret roof to match the current roof shingles.

S. Goodick moved to grant the COA based upon the proposed repairs as-noted .

S. Miller seconded the motion.

The motion as approved by unanimous vote of the members with no further discussion.

The Second Item on the agenda was a continuance regarding a petition for a Certificate of Appropriateness regarding the alteration of **1 Washington Street** (map7, lot 91). The description of the proposed work: The sidewalk level façade currently consists of 9 bays, defined by granite columns and headers. The bays are filled with a variety of different infill treatments, picture windows, operable windows and doors. The changes proposed are intended to provide a façade that is more uniform by using matching doors, and operable double-hung windows with mullion patterns similar to those on the building's upper level façade. Removal of the granite sill and installation of a door in the Eastern-most bay will allow barrier-free entry in to the commercial space. Graphic images of the proposed façade changes were provided. Petitioner Blackburn, LLC was represented by Bob Vallis, partner of Kirk Noyes.

B. Vallis explained that GAP Productions occupies the 2nd floor but that the restaurant Giuseppe's is now gone and a new tenant is coming to occupy the 1st floor. The proposal is to replace the picture windows in the 1st floor façade with double-hung, divided light windows and to remove the current awning over the arched entrance. He explained that the existing wood columns need to be replaced and a new entrance will be created in the bay far to the East.

S. Goodick asked if there were any National Historic Register or similar restrictions on the façade and clarified that the building is both #1 and #2 Washington Street.

B. Vallis replied that there was not a NHR restriction and that a new restaurant would be replacing Giuseppe's.

D. Porper asked about the columns, whether the new ones would be fiberglass and how closely they would match the existing columns.

B. Vallis replied that they would be as close a match as possible in fiberglass.

D. Porper asked about the removal of the existing granite threshold.

There was general discussion about the proposed changes to the façade.

B. Vallis explained that this was necessary to create an ADA-compliant entrance. He further described the divided light windows that are proposed and the divided-light French door for the new entrance.

D. Porper asked that a French door with a solid panel at the bottom be used to match the period of the building, rather than one with divided lights all the way to the bottom.

S. Miller moved to grant the COA based upon the proposal including the solid panel at the base of the French doors, close match to the existing columns and divided light, double-hung windows.

S. Goodick seconded the motion.

The motion as approved by unanimous vote of the members with no further discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m. by **Chairman Porper**.

Respectfully submitted, Charles L. Nazarian, Secretary