

Historic and/or Architectural Advisory Board
City of Cortland
October 24, 2011

A special meeting of the Historic District Commission was held on October 24, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall.

Present: Chair Kline, Comm. Abbott, Delaney, Dineen, Kane and Schaffer

Staff Present: Zoning Officer Bruce Weber, Capt. William Knickerbocker and Cheryl Massmann, Deputy City Clerk

Item No. 1 - 5 Main St. - (VanDeusen)(CB) - Signage

James VanDeusen was present. Chair Kline described the revised signage. She stated that the first proposal was for a sign length of two (2) feet by eighteen (18) feet four (4) inches.

Chair Kline explained that the new second proposal is for a sign that is two (2) feet by fourteen (14) feet. She noted that the proposed colors are burgundy letters, outlined in grey against a white field color with black staff lines. She noted that the staff graphic is twenty point nine (20.9) inches. The upper case letters will be nine (9) inches and lower case will be five and three quarters ($5\frac{3}{4}$) inches and all are three (3) inches wide. She noted that the actual store front is twenty (20) feet wide. She explained that Code requires one (1) square foot of signage for every foot of store frontage. She noted that in order to put up the smaller proposed sign, Mr. VanDeusen will still have to apply for a variance. She also noted that there will be no lighting for this sign. Comm. Delaney noted that the new proposal fit the size of the façade space beautifully. It was noted that the sign included the border in its size measurements.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding various ways to reduce the size of the sign and whether reducing it further in size would still make it visible or aesthetically pleasing. It was decided that the proposed sign would lose effect if it were reduced any further from the fourteen (14) feet. Mr. VanDeusen noted that it would take about three (3) weeks for a variance and that would delay his ordering his sign and he needs that sign now. He ultimately decided to apply for a variance.

Chair Kline noted that if the Historic Board approved the proposed signage that the Zoning Board of Appeals would be notified of that decision.

Motion to approve the second sign design proposal as far as color, design and the centering of the sign on the façade pending variance approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion: Comm. Schaffer
Seconded: Comm. Dineen

Motion passed.

Item No. 2 - Minutes - October 17, 2011

Motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2011.

Motion: Comm. Schaffer
Seconded: Comm. Dineen

Motion passed.

New Business

Chair Kline stated that the Pita Gourmet at 41 Main Street has put up an unapproved new awning that has a lot of graphics on it. It was not the color of the material that this Board approved in 2007 when they came before the Historic Board with Architect Taw's presentation of their proposed façade changes. Chair Kline noted that Zoning Officer Weber will review the approved application and speak to the owners of the Pita Gourmet and let them know that they have to come before the Historic Board with the new awning specs.

Chair Kline also noted that there is more neon signage popping up on Main Street. She updated the Commission that the planned walk of Main Street with Zoning Officer Weber has been postponed.

Comm. Schaffer gave an update that the Common Council is forming a committee to update the City Code to review the signage section of the ordinance. They are looking for volunteers to sit on this committee.

Adjournment

Motion: Comm. Schaffer
Seconded: Comm. Dineen

Motion passed.

Linda Kline, Chairperson