

Architectural Review Board
October 19, 2005

Jeffrey Plank, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Also present were members Lillian Copeland, John Koski, and Fred Schneider; applicant Ron Lauziere; Barry Clark; and observer George Goodwin.

Jeffrey stated that Fred and Lillian met with Ron last Wednesday to discuss façade. Jeffrey asked if there were any changes. Ron said he had a letter from Mr. Hawranke with details of the façade changes. Fred said they talked about trying to keep buildings looking like they did when they were originally constructed. He shared pictures with ARB members and guest. Photos were dated 1898 and 1912. Fred noted the architectural features of the building and stated that, with the exception of the missing cornice, it looks much the same today as it did then. Jeffrey asked if there were any questions regarding the history of the building. Jeffrey addressed modesty panels, such as tinting glass. Jeffrey stated he just visited Hudson, NY, and they used a variety of window treatments that served different purposes. John stated he didn't want to change the glass. Lillian stated we should stay within the guidelines. George felt if it was tastefully done with wood it would fit in.

Fred said he was happy that the recessed entrances were kept, and decisions should be based on the most knowledge there is available. Fred said there is an approach to combine the old and the new without physically altering the character of the building. Jeffrey stated that the "show" windows were a character defining feature. Ron stated he had lived in this area since 1988 and was a supporter of the Streetscape Project; he said that he wants an attractive storefront and feels the building is currently unattractive. He stated that Stephan Hawranke wants to do good things and is looking forward to other people fixing up their storefronts.

Rehearsal downstairs became noisy and loud. Ron stated he would keep transom glass and marble bulkhead but is looking for some kind of compromise on the plate glass. Jeffrey stated he wished the applicants had come to them first before plans were drafted. He stated they had worked with applicants along the way and chose to be proactive rather than reactive. Jeffrey asked if we should consider this application or a revised application with possible wood panels at bottom. Jeffrey stated we should only vote on this application and a separate idea should be considered separately. Jeffrey stated the existing windows are character-defining.

Fred moved that the application as submitted be denied. Jeffrey seconded, and members voted unanimously to reject the application.

Fred said we should look at other towns but in the same time period; Williamsburg and Old Town are older towns.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.