Oak Park Historic Preservation Commission ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

February 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes
Oak Park Village Hall, Room 201 – 7:30 pm

A. Roll Call

PRESENT: Christopher Payne, Sandra Carr, Aleksandra Tadic, and Noel Weidner

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Susie Trexler, Historic Preservation Urban Planner

B. Minutes

Motion by Tadic to approve minutes of the January 23, 2019, meeting as submitted. Second by Carr. Motion approved 4-0.

AYE: Carr, Tadic, Weidner, Chair Payne

NAY: None

C. 150 N Taylor Ave (Kazimir and Megan Boyle): Discuss the conversion of an attached garage into living space (Ridgeland-Oak Park Historic District). Previously reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission January 10, 2019 and recommended to return to the Architectural Review Committee.

The architect, Christopher Bremer, and the homeowner, Kazimir Boyle, were present.

Christopher Bremer explained the project and the alterations that were made to address concerns raised by the Commission on the January 10 meeting. To retain the look of the garage door, the applicant will put in millwork paneling that replicates the door. Four windows will be installed across the top.

The Committee verified that it is a wall system, not the door itself, and that the existing door is wood. Committee members Weidner and Tadic agreed that the wood paneling works well. Chair Payne noted that the project does not involve any major alterations.

Motion by Weidner to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the project as proposed. Second by Tadic. Approved 4-0.

AYE: Carr, Tadic, Weidner, Payne

NAY: None

D. 819 Woodbine Ave (Emily and Justin Hartung): Discuss the renovation of enclosed front porch including small addition to porch, new porch roof and new windows (Frank Lloyd Wright Prairie School of Architecture Historic District).

The architect, Christopher Bremer, and the homeowner, Justin Hartung, were present.

Christopher Bremer explained the project and stated that the overall goal is to rehab the existing porch, remove the stoop, and add a covered extension in place of the stoop.

The Committee discussed how the porch has been altered and what remains historic. It was determined that as the porch was enclosed in 1923, it is historic. The Committee recommended retaining the existing porch, replacing materials in kind as required. The Committee agreed that returning the porch to a hip roof would be appropriate, due to historical evidence that it was originally a hip in shape.

The Committee decided that the windows may be historic and if replaced, should be replaced with casements to match. It is acceptable for the windows to swing out rather than in.

The Committee recommended that the porch be kept stucco and the addition to the porch be done with wood. Carr noted the stone base and it was agreed to be appropriate as it matches the stone foundation of the house.

E. 130 S Taylor Ave (Matthew Warton): Discus the plan to remove the existing enclosed front porch and replacement with an open front porch (Ridgeland-Oak Park Historic District).

Cristian Gansari, representing the architect, was present. He explained the project, noting that the decking is in poor condition and they plan to put new posts beneath but retain the roof.

The Committee expressed that the original porch should be retained. Opening the porch is within the Architectural Review Guidelines but the existing columns and railings should be kept. Deteriorated materials may be replaced but should be replaced to match existing.

Chair Payne said that the railings on the porch should be kept as existing but a rail may be added above if it is desired for safety. Columns may also be added at the stairs if needed for structural support.

The Committee recommended that the applicant consult with a structural engineer as it may be possible to fix the leaning porch supports without demolition.

The Committee agreed that the window alterations are appropriate.

F. 1032 Superior St (James Bonaccorsi): Discuss request for variance to allow a parking space in current front yard (Frank Lloyd Wright-Prairie School of Architecture Historic District).

The Committee discussed the proposal and recommended that pavers be used to minimize the visual impact.

D. Other Business None

E. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Minutes prepared by Susie Trexler, Historic Preservation Urban Planner.