

**DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH
HISTORIC & ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 23, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Doylestown Borough Historic and Architectural Review Board was held at 7:30 PM on Thursday, February 23, 2023 at Doylestown Borough Hall, 10 Doyle Street. Members of the Doylestown Borough Historic and Architectural Review Board in attendance were: Kim Jacobsen, Denise Blasdale, Constance Magnuson, Marie Kovach, Student Member Jack Swartley, and Karyn Hyland, Director of Building and Zoning.

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

MINUTES APPROVAL: The January meeting minutes were approved, as corrected.

SIGN APPLICATIONS:

150 South Main Street, Garrett Schad – Mr. Schad presented his proposed sign, to be hung outside of his business on an existing bracket. There will be no lights. On a motion from Ms. Blasdale, seconded by Ms. Magnuson, the Board voted unanimously to forward the application to Borough Council for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

BUILDING APPLICATIONS:

139 East Oakland Avenue, Kenneth Armour – Mr. Armour appeared to discuss his powder-coated metal pergola application, which had not yet been approved, but work has already begun. In response to questions from Ms. Magnuson, Mr. Armour reviewed the view of the pergola behind the fence, which will be several feet. Ms. Blasdale shared her thoughts that the pergola, being visible from the street, is not appropriate for that style of home and would have preferred to see a canvas awning instead. Mr. Armour noted the pergola will not be as visible in the summer, as he does bring in potted, flowering trees for the season each year, which are placed inside the fence on the patio. He is also planting in front of the pergola and fence.

Ms. Jacobsen appreciates the design, although Ms. Blasdale disagrees with the modern look in the Historic District. Mr. Kepler made a motion to accept and recommend the application as submitted to Borough Council for approval. Votes included three opposed, three in favor, and one abstention. The Board agreed to continue discussion, with several members requesting some type of buffer. Mr. Armour suggested plantings of arborvitae or holly to shield the pergola from view. Ms. Hyland explained arborvitae is not on the approved list of native plants. Mr. Hita noted he would change his vote to affirmative with appropriate plantings to show compromise.

Ms. Kovach made a motion to accept the application and include appropriate evergreen screening at least the height of the fence to be determined and based on the approved Borough list; that motion was seconded by Mr. Hita, with all approving with the exception of Ms. Magnuson, who abstained.

211-213 East Oakland Avenue, Nicholas Gray – Property owners Mr. Gray and Beth Bingler appeared to discuss the proposed garage where an existing barn will be removed. The barn has been approved previously to be removed. The garage is planned to be the same color as the house. Ms. Blasdale would appreciate a barn red color instead, in keeping with the history of the property, and Ms. Bingler agreed she will consider that as she also likes that look. Neighbor Barbara Hepner spoke to the existing concern with running rain water in the private alley. She and Ms. Bingler have spoken about this, and agreed to gravel in the driveway space to assist with drainage. Ms. Hyland noted there will be a required grading permit as well as storm water management design. In response to questions from an audience member, the height will be within approved Borough minutes.

On a recommendation from Ms. Magnuson and seconded by Ms. Kovach, the Board voted unanimously to forward the application as submitted to Borough Council for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

106 East State Street, Wendy Connard – Ms. Connard presented the application to replace five old, drafty windows on the second floor, with three in the front of the building, one on the South side, and one on the West side. The same painted Anderson 400 series windows are proposed.

On a motion from Mr. Kepler and seconded by Ms. Magnuson, the Board voted unanimously to approve the application as submitted and will be forwarded to Borough Council for approval.

192 Lafayette Street, John and Megan Martino – Bill Schilling, contractor, appeared to present the application to replace all of the windows with the same Marvin windows with a two-over-two simulated grill.

On a motion from Ms. Blasdale, seconded by Mr. Hita, the Board voted unanimously to approve the application as submitted and will be forwarded to Borough Council for final approval.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS: Ms. Hyland reviewed the next meeting, which will include smaller workshop groups. Input from the public as well as the Borough Boards and Commission is vital to the process.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Kramer
Meeting Minutes Secretary