

**MINUTES**  
**Southbridge Historical Commission**

Meeting held in the Recreation Room at Town Hall, Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Attending: Evelyn Petrelli, Robert Tremblay, Margaret Morrissey, Rose Cournoyer, Economic Development Dept., Bob Paige of Beaumont Sign and Margaret Forand of Salle Notre Dame

Excused Peter Preble and Helen Lenti. Proxy on hand.

Meeting commenced at 7.02 p.m., and chaired by Margaret Morrissey.

No minutes were available.

Presentation on the application for signage replacement at the former Brooks Store, by Bob Paige of Beaumont Signs, on behalf of Rite Aid Pharmacy. The commissioners indicated that all the current non compliant signage (mostly in the windows) needs to be removed immediately.

A discussion took place on exterior illumination. Currently the electrical canisters that are installed are empty and will remain this way. The Commission indicated that either ground floor spot lighting or, halo/back lit illumination would be acceptable, should Rite Aide wish to have the signage lit. For the Drive Through and Exit signs, the light would shine upward from the ground, shielded from the traffic.

Each page of the application was voted on and approved – please see the application for any individual riders.

It was noted that temporary signage is permitted under section 2.1.2 of the bylaw for thirty days. The spirit of the ordinance is that this signage is removed completely at that point, not replaced by another ‘temporary’ sign.

Rose Cournoyer of the Economic Development Department presented three applications

- Zoe’s Pizza  
No lighting provision in the application. All existing signage to be removed including the obsolete sign bracket.  
Proposed: Robert Tremblay, Seconded: Evelyn Petrelli.
- Phase II Hair Design  
Remove old sign bracket. Install replacement bracket. Remove all existing signs. Approved 36” sign with gooseneck illumination.  
Proposed: Evelyn Petrelli, Seconded: Robert Tremblay

- **Daisy's Used Furniture:** Relocated flat belt sign to the rear of building. Approved new belt sign for front façade. Remove all other signage, including that from window. Temporary signs permitted for 30 days only. Proposed: Evelyn Petrelli, Seconded: Robert Tremblay

Concern was raised about the neon signs in the windows of Gordon's Music and the Pump House. The temporary banner can only be in place for 30 days, according to the bylaw. The temporary signage at the Pump House has exceeded this time and needs to be removed immediately. Both companies were recipients of funding from the CBDG program and must comply with the local ordinance. Rose was requested to address these issues with the two companies.

**Salle Notre Dame:** The application was approved, as presented with the addition of directional signage in the driveway – one way and exit signs.

Proposed: Evelyn Petrelli, Seconded: Robert Tremblay.

### **Parking**

The Protection of Persons and Property Sub Committee had scheduled to hold a meeting at the same time as this meeting. Margaret Morrissey dictated a statement, in advance, asking the sub committee to recognize that historic properties by virtue of their involvement in the oldest sections of town where no accommodation was planned for automobiles and there will always be parking issues due to the location. She urged the committee to consider the previous suggestion from an earlier meeting to introduce a one-way system for traffic which would alleviate the parking issue and it would have the additional effect of slowing down the traffic in the Hamilton and Crane Street area.

### **Budget**

In light of the Redevelopment Authority plan to improve the Central Street area, where some changes will be made to the streetscape, the Commission decided to make prints of the archival photographs and bring them into the public domain.

The photographs were taken by Holden Studios in 1950s of the Central Street and surrounding area and the Armory at Morris Street. They will be scanned, copied and framed by Village Photo. It is hoped to hang the Central Street framed prints at Town Hall and the Armory photographs at the Armory.

Next meeting: July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 7 p.m. Recreation Room, Town Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Margaret Morrissey