

**MINUTES**

**TOWN OF NORMAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
CONFERENCE ROOM C, CITY HALL  
100 EAST PHOENIX AVENUE  
NORMAL, ILLINOIS**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
September 8, 2009  
12:30 p.m.**

**Members Physically Present**

Kristen Allen, Nancy Armstrong, Anne Matter, Bob Ward, Bruce Warloe

**Members Physically Absent**

Kathy Burgess, Matt Felumlee

**Others Physically Present**

Lauren Sunkel, Associate Town Planner; Barb Coleman

**Call to Order**

Ms. Matter called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and noted a quorum was present.

**Minutes:**

The minutes were approved 5-0 as submitted.

**CA-09-09-28 – 609 School – Replace of wood siding with stainless steel**

Ms. Matter welcomed Ms. Coleman and moved this item to the top of the agenda given that Ms. Coleman was the only applicant present.

Ms. Coleman said that currently the south side of her porch has no railings while the north side has been screened and enclosed. She said that she found porch spindles in the basement when she bought the house this summer. At her insurance company's urging she said she wished to create new spindles that would replicate the damaged ones she had found. She said that she also hoped to match the height of the railings that currently exist on the north side of the porch. The north railing is thirty-two and one half inches tall which is three and one half inches shorter than required by residential building code.

Ms. Matter asked about the height requirement per building safety code. Ms. Sunkel said that the Director of Inspections would allow the thirty-two and a half inches height in this instance.

Ms. Coleman asked for clarification on how far apart the spindles should be placed. Ms. Sunkel said that the ratio is typically one to one and one half times the width of the spindle.

**CA-09-08-24 - 616 Normal Avenue – Replace of wood siding with stainless steel**

Ms. Sunkel said that the item had been carried over from the August agenda at the request of the applicant.

Ms. Matter reviewed the Certificate of Appropriateness application with the Commission. She noted that per code steel siding is not permitted for historic properties; however, that obviously some replacement alternative would be needed, especially in the rotted areas around the dormer windows.

Mr. Warloe said it appears that there is a problem with the paint adhering to the wood siding; however, the Commission agreed that steel or vinyl siding was not the solution.

The Commission suggested alternatives to replacing the siding with vinyl, including new wood siding or a cement board siding, such as HardieBoard.

Ms. Armstrong moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness CA-09-08-24 request for 616 Normal Avenue as submitted. Ms. Allen seconded.

Ayes: None

Nays: Kristen Allen, Nancy Armstrong, Anne Matter, Bob Ward, Bruce Warloe

The motion was denied, 0-5.

**CA-09-09-26 - 607 Normal Avenue – Replace wood siding with vinyl on garage**

Ms. Sunkel said that this item had also been carried over from the August agenda at the request of the applicant.

The Commission reviewed the application. Ms. Armstrong noted that aside from a couple of boards at the base of the garage it appeared that the garage just needed to be painted. Ms. Sunkel said that the property is not owner occupied. As a result, the owner prefers to minimize maintenance.

The Commission agreed that the west and south sides of the garage were not visible from the public right-of-way; however, the north and east sides are visible despite the vegetation that is adjacent to the north side.

Ms. Matter noted that vinyl siding is not permitted per code.

The Commission suggested alternatives to replacing the siding with vinyl, including new wood siding or a cement board siding, such as HardieBoard.

Mr. Ward moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness CA-09-09-26 request for 607 Normal Avenue as submitted. Ms. Allen seconded.

Ayes: None

Nays: Kristen Allen, Nancy Armstrong, Anne Matter, Bob Ward, Bruce Warloe

The motion was denied, 0-5.

**CA-09-09-27 – 600 Normal Avenue – Restore front door**

Ms. Sunkel shared the photos submitted by the applicant of the door and doorbell which they have on hold at the Old House Society. She noted that this project is a portion of the larger porch restoration.

The Commission commented that these materials are historically appropriate and more attractive than the existing door and bell.

Ms. Allen moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness CA-09-09-27 request for 600 Normal Avenue as submitted. Mr. Warloe seconded.

Ayes: Kristen Allen, Nancy Armstrong, Anne Matter, Bob Ward, Bruce Warloe

Nays: None

The motion carried, 5-0.

**BG-09-09-08 - 600 Normal Avenue – Restore front door**

Ms. Armstrong noted that only one bid had been submitted with the application and asked for clarification of the costs. The Commission agreed that the costs seemed high, but there was no detail on how much framing work would have to be done to accommodate the new door. Mr. Warloe asked whether the existing storm door would remain. Ms. Sunkel said she was not clear whether it would stay or be replaced in the future.

The Commission agreed that the door bell and door were eligible for funding, but that a second estimate would be required to determine if the installation and labor for the project would also be eligible.

Ms. Matter recommended that the item be carried over until the next meeting in order to give the applicants time to obtain another estimate for the installation.

Ms. Armstrong moved to carry over Bone Grant request BG-09-09-08 for 600 Normal Avenue until the next meeting. Mr. Ward seconded.

Ayes: Kristen Allen, Nancy Armstrong, Anne Matter, Bob Ward, Bruce Warloe

Nays: None

The motion carried, 5-0.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Sunkel  
Associate Town Planner