

Historic Preservation Commission Minutes: March 12, 2018

Review of Certificate of Appropriateness: Moline Historic Landmark

Scottish Rite Cathedral, 1800 – 7th Ave. Moline, Illinois

Regarding: Replacement doors and outside LED decorative lighting

Presentation by: Owner Blake Humphrey

Mr. Humphrey stated that they appreciated the outstanding architectural details of the Scottish Rite building and explained to the Commission their reason for requesting permission to replace entrance doors on the two east (Parking Lot) side of the building, two in the rear alleyway and the two west side entrances. To help with the discussion, Commissioner Sandberg had prepared two photo boards which showed the doors visible from the street, close ups of the doors and any damage to the doors along with one detailing the building's architectural details.

The Commission requested that discussion of repair or replacement of the buildings original main entrance wooden north facing doors be separate from discussion of the side door entrances.

Mr. Humphrey stated that it was their goal with the adaptive new use of the building to provide more open/welcoming side entrances by eliminating several solid doors and replacing them with all glass and replacing some solid doors with aluminum or steel with a rectangular strip window.

Commissioner Senatra suggested brick planters could be built to help better identify the east side main entrance. Presently the handicapped entrance with its canopy appears to be the main entrance. Commissioner Mack showed a multi-pane door that he suggested could be a better fit than a single pane glass door. Following a discussion period, Commissioner Carm Senatra made a motion to approve the changes to the East and West side Cathedral doors with dark brown aluminum/steel or glass doors as requested in the application seconded by Commissioner Dan Mizner. After further discussion the Commission voted unanimously to approve the application as presented for the east and west doors and the doors facing the south hillside. It was suggested that other glass doors could be found with some type of grid layout that would be more compatible with the glass transoms.

Approved side entrance door changes:

The second East (Parking Lot) entrance door south of the canopy and the North West entrance door opposite the smaller parking lot will be changed to Tinted Glass pane doors.

The third Southeast (Parking Lot) doors will be changed to dark brown solid metal/steel doors with a narrow elongated window and the same style will replace the current wooden doors on the Southwest side of the building facing the smaller parking lot. The Commission determined that the wooden doors could be original, but their condition was such that regrettably repairing them was not feasible.

Historic North facing Main Entrance Doors:

The Commission then took up the question of the three sets of original wooden doors on the north front entrance to the Cathedral. The Certificate of Appropriateness application had two different statements as to their request for these doors. One stated they planned to save and repair the doors and the other stated they wanted to remove the wooden doors and replace them with tinted glass doors. Commissioner Sandberg read from a book by Kay Weeks and Anne Grimmer of the National Parks Service on Guidelines for the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Preserving and Rehabilitating Historic Buildings as it related to porches and exterior doors. It stated: Identifying, retaining and preserving entrances and their functional and decorative features such as doors, fanlights, sidelights etc. should be given priority.

Commissioner Carm Senatra made a motion to Save, repair and rehang the three sets of the north facing original wooden doors including retaining and cleaning and reusing the hardware. This was seconded by Commissioner Barbara Sandberg followed by discussion and a unanimous vote of approval by the Commission. Suggestions of contacts that could help with any restoration needed on the doors were offered by several Commissioners.

Exterior LED Lighting:

Blake Humphrey then sought approval for new exterior LED lighting to the exterior of the building. He stated that they wanted to highlight the architectural details of the building, not the entire building as was done in the past. Commissioners observed a potential layout of how the lighting would be placed on the building. After some discussion, and comments by Jeff Anderson that the city had considered supporting exterior lights on some of the downtown buildings, a motion by Commissioner Craig Mack, seconded by Commissioner Carm Senatra to approve the proposed lighting received a unanimous vote by the Commission.

Blake Humphrey thanked the Commission for their consideration of their Application and stated that a Grand Opening event was being planned for May 4th 2018.

Submitted by: Commissioner Barbara Sandberg, Secretary