

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
HISTORIC DISTRICT #1  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 1, 2014**

**ATTENDANCE:** Stuart Sachs, Chair; Guy Horvath, Roger Weldon, Gail Stephen

**STAFF:** William Minor, Land Use Director

**OTHERS:** Atty. Raymond Rizio, Achievement First; Mr. Loren Guttierrez, Achievement First

**CALL TO ORDER.**

Commissioner Sachs called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**PUBLIC HEARING.**

**Certificate of Appropriateness: Application #20914-08 By Achievement First Bridgeport Academy for a Certificate of Appropriateness to remove existing concrete walkway to building from Noble Avenue to existing building. Walkway to be replaced by grass and new curbs at 529 Noble Avenue in the Pembroke City Historic District.**

Atty. Rizio came forward and introduced himself. He said that he was representing Achievement First for the application. Atty. Rizio then displayed a site plan, and distributed copies of some color photographs of the site to the Commissioners. He explained that the old Barnum School had a front entrance on Noble Avenue, but the Academy has filled that area in and constructed classrooms there. There is no longer an entrance there and they would like to remove the existing concrete sidewalk leading from Noble Avenue to the building. There is no signage in the area. The main entrances are now located at Harriet Street, Maple Street and Arctic Avenue. Atty. Rizio said that having the concrete sidewalk cutting through the area where the students play creates a liability, and looks wrong since there is no longer an entrance there.

Commissioner Sachs asked about the gate. Mr. Loren Guttierrez said that the gate was welded shut. The access to the area is through the parking area. The other gates, into the basketball court and one by the trash receptacle are closed but not locked.

Commissioner Horvath said that the architectural infill has some boxes in the windows. Mr. Guttierrez said that they were bookshelves in front of the window.

Commissioner Stephen asked if the fence by the basketball court was locked. Atty. Rizio said that it was not locked. Commissioner Steven asked if there would be a fence installed by the parking area. Atty. Rizio said that there was no fencing there now. Commissioner Sachs said

that if a fence was installed by the parking area, the Academy would have to submit another application to the Commission. He pointed out that this was not part of the current application.

Commissioner Sachs asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak in favor of the application.

Mr. Guttierrez came forward and said that the area was used almost every day when the weather is nice. Recently there was a grant that would provide lacrosse equipment, but the area can't be used for lacrosse because the curbing is there.

Commissioner Sachs asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak in opposition. Hearing none, Commissioner Sachs closed the public hearing on Application #20914-08 for a Certificate of Appropriateness for Achievement First Bridgeport Academy.

There being no other applications for the Commissioners to consider, Commissioner Sachs closed the public hearing portion of the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

**Certificate of Appropriateness: Application #20914-08 By Achievement First Bridgeport Academy for a Certificate of Appropriateness to remove existing concrete walkway to building from Noble Avenue to existing building. Walkway to be replaced by grass and new curbs at 529 Noble Avenue in the Pembroke City Historic District.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HORVATH MOVED TO APPROVE APPLICATION #20914-08 BY ACHIEVEMENT FIRST BRIDGEPORT ACADEMY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO REMOVE EXISTING CONCRETE WALKWAY TO BUILDING FROM NOBLE AVENUE TO EXISTING BUILDING. WALKWAY TO BE REPLACED BY GRASS AND NEW CURBS AT 529 NOBLE AVENUE IN THE PEMBROKE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WELDON SECONDED.**

Commissioner Sachs said that the curbing should be cut back to the radius point of the curve. He indicated where this would be on the site plan for Atty. Rizio and Mr. Guttierrez.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE APPLICATION #20914-08 BY ACHIEVEMENT FIRST BRIDGEPORT ACADEMY FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO REMOVE EXISTING CONCRETE WALKWAY TO BUILDING FROM NOBLE AVENUE TO EXISTING BUILDING. WALKWAY TO BE REPLACED BY GRASS AND NEW CURBS AT 529 NOBLE AVENUE IN THE PEMBROKE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS.**

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

**MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2014.**

- \*\* COMMISSIONER WELDON MOVED THE MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2014.**
- \*\* COMMISSIONER STEPHEN SECONDED.**
- \*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 2014 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ADJOURNMENT.**

- \*\* COMMISSIONER WELDON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- \*\* COMMISSIONER STEPHEN SECONDED.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Service