

# CITY OF FLORISSANT



June 24, 2019

## LANDMARK AND HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MINUTES

The Landmark and Historic District Commission (LHDC) of the City of Florissant met at the Florissant City Hall on Monday June 24, 2019 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> conference room at 6:30 p.m., with Kent Miller presiding.

### **INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME**

Commission members introduced themselves along with staff members, Dianne Lehmann, recording clerk, Phil Lum, Building Commissioner Kent Miller- Chairman, Steve Frank - member, Dan Call-member, Christine Keil- member, Patty Sosa-member.

Also in attendance were Marius Palmer from Palmer Premier Auto and his son. Steve Gettermeier and Carol for Old St. Ferdinand Shrine were also in attendance

### **ROLL CALL**

Kent Miller, Steve Frank, Patty Sosa, Dan Call and Christine Keil were in attendance. There being a quorum the meeting was called to order.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Kent Miller asked if there were any minutes to approve. Patty Sosa made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Christine Kiel. All approved minutes as submitted.

At this time Kent Miller asked to suspend the rules and ask that we recognize our petitioners request and hear new business first. Dan Call made a motion to do so, seconded by Christine Kiel and all voted in favor to hear New Business.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 1**

**Review an application for a sign variance request at 575 N New Florissant , Palmer Premier Auto brought to the commission by owner Marius Palmer**

Phil Lum explained that the sign application brought before LHDC was a face change to an existing sign that is already constructed. Palmer Premier Auto is now doing business where the old Bill's Automotive was and is using the exact same signage just changing the words. Phil did say that our code states that any sign that is being constructed in the Old Town Historic District must be reviewed by LHDC. Phil said he thought in the past there was some misunderstanding about the necessity of reviewing signs with logos. If a sign only has a logo a review would be required as well. The reason why LHDC would review such an application is to insure that the integrity of the Old town Historic District remain and that the sign was period of that of the building it represents. It was determined that 2 signs are being changed with no internal lighting. The lighting comes from under the signs. LHDC will grant a variance if they find no objection to the changes in graphics.

A motion was made by Patty Sosa seconded by Dan Call to grant a variance to Palmer Premier Auto at 575 N New Florissant Rd to change the existing 2 signs to reflect that of the new owner with his logo as presented to LHDC. All voted to approve

**Item 1**

**Review an application for a sign variance request at 661 St. Ferdinand St, Shrine of St. Ferdinand brought to the commission by Shrine representative Steve Gettermier.**

Phil said this was tricky because the sign in question was once on the corner of Rue St. Francois and Rue St. Ferdinand before the fire station was built. This would be considered a non-conforming sign because you cannot have a sign on one property advertising a different property.

Steve Gettermier told LHDC that he found an old sign that was once on the corner of Rue St. Francois and Rue St. Ferdinand at the fire station. He would like to re-use this sign as more or a directional sign for the Shrine placing it on what is not grounds for the Florissant Valley Fire Station grounds.

Phil Lum explained various reasons why this sign would require a special use and building permit. Phil also explained that a sign less than 16 square feet on the easement of the Fire Station grounds would not require a sign permit and that it would be exempt. The current sign application does not meet the 16 square foot requirement but the current sign is damaged and could easily be trimmed to meet the 16 square foot requirement or build a new sign

Kent asked the commission if anyone had concerns about the way the proposed sign looks and if anyone had concerns if the proposed sign was altered to meet the less than "16 square foot requirement" so the Shrine didn't have to obtain a Special Use Permit. No one objected and a motion was made by Steve Frank for the commission **to approve the design presented, according to the proposal prepared by the petitioner as described related documents**

89 **presented and according to the sign drawing photograph. Approval is subject to the**  
90 **regulations of the City of Florissant building code.** Motion was seconded by Patty Sosa,  
91 Christine Keil recused herself from the vote being a member of the Shrine Board. A vote passed  
92 regarding the proposed sign and changes with 4 commission members in favor and 1 member  
93 recusing herself.

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95 Phil reminded representatives of the Shrine that they should have something documented and  
96 recorded with St. Louis County that describes the easement. Legal documentation outlines who  
97 will maintain the sign, talk about permission of installation, etc.

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99 **OLD BUSINESS**

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101 **Item 1 Discuss Missouri Struggle for Statehood.**

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103 Dianne said she has approval from the Director of Parks and we are good on location. She  
104 also stated that she viewed the display in Washington County several weeks back and was blown  
105 away by how cool the display is. She told everyone that the display that Washington had was in  
106 the library towards the back and our display would be front and center of the JJE center. Dianne  
107 also reminded the commission that she thought our application had a much different direction on  
108 how we will present. The application will be strongly emphasizing Florissant's diversity as an  
109 early settlement and how we are still that diverse City.

110 The dates we have requested to host the display are October 1, 2020 – November 10, 2020. We  
111 have chosen these dates because it will coincide with the bicentennial celebration of St. Rose  
112 Philipian Duchesne's arrival at The Shrine and this is also our celebration of the Fall Festival.

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114 We are looking at 2 different events to showcase the displays. We would like to include guest  
115 speakers with knowledge about the early Native Americans and African American people as it  
116 related to the struggles of Missouri becoming a state. We have several speakers that we can  
117 contact moving forward. Our hopes are to broaden the audience that attends the event.

118  
119 Kent asked about a time frame to get the application submitted. Dianne said that the application  
120 has been started and we have permission from both the Mayor and the Director of Parks. Dan  
121 Call asked about cost associated with guest speakers. Dianne said that is what the money from  
122 the grant (\$2,500.00) will help offset the cost of speakers. Chris asked about dates available at the  
123 theater. Dianne said she didn't want to ask the theater until we actually received the grant.  
124 Dianne did remind everyone that there are multiple areas at JJE that can be used to do  
125 presentations. Bill Hart would be another person that would be a good speaker about historic  
126 preservation.

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128 Kent asked all commission members to be thinking about corporate sponsors and who could help  
129 with donations for these events. Everyone said they would like to have a small reception  
130 following the events similar to what we did for Historic Treasures. Dianne reminded everyone  
131 that with any donations collected keep in mind that we are trying to identify all of the landmark  
132 homes in Florissant with plaques. Donations may help offset that cost. Chris asked if we could  
133 use money collected from the grant on the plaques and Dianne informed her no. Any money from  
134 the grant would need to be used to help offset the cost of the events. Dianne said that if we do  
135 collect donations for the plaques maybe we could go to Council and ask for matching funds. If

136 we raised half of the money necessary maybe the City would chip in the other half. Kent asked if  
137 we needed anything else from the commission right now and Phil answered not at this time.  
138 Dianne said she wanted everyone to remember that this event is a good opportunity for us to be  
139 all inclusive of all Florissant residents and the history of our diversity.

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141 **Miscellaneous Business**

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143 Dianne mentioned that the application for grant from DNR is now available. Dianne said that we have  
144 applied for a grant to complete the historic inventory of Florissant houses in the past but didn't get it.  
145 Both Phil and Dianne said they feel they can improve on the application for that grant and ask for funds to  
146 complete the historic inventory needed. A motion was made by Chris Keil to pursue the grant offered by  
147 DNR. LHDC will apply for the grant asking for funds to complete the historic inventory. Seconded by  
148 Dan Call all approved and motion was passed.

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150 **Announcements / Comments**

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152 Kent Miller asked if there was no further business he would entertain a motion to adjourn. A  
153 motion was made to adjourn by Dan Call seconded by Patty Sosa motion carried meeting  
154 adjourned.

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156 Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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158 Respectfully submitted:

159 Dianne Lehmann Recording Clerk