



**MINUTES  
VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**January 23, 2024  
6:30 PM**

**MEMBER ROLL CALL**

Name	Organization	Title	Status
Anthony Bannon	Village of Williamsville	Member	Present
Kathleen DeLaney	Village of Williamsville	Member	Present
Susan Fenster	Village of Williamsville	Chair	Absent
Raymond Herman	Village of Williamsville	Member	Present
Patricia Walker	Village of Williamsville	Member	Present
Catherine Waterman-Kulpa	Village of Williamsville	Vice-Chair	Present

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

Name	Organization	Title	Status
Sue Canell	Village of Williamsville	Administrator	Present
Charles Grieco	Bond, Schoeneck & King	Village Attorney	Absent
James Quinn	Town of Amherst	Planner	Present
Eileen Torre	Village of Williamsville	Trustee/Liaison	Present

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Vice-Chair Waterman-Kulpa made a motion to approve December 19, 2023, minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Walker. Ayes 5, Noes 0.

RESULT:	MOTION PASSED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Catherine Waterman-Kulpa, Vice-Chair
SECONDER:	Patricia Walker, Member
AYES:	Bannon, DeLaney, Herman, Waterman-Kulpa, Walker

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. 5541 Main Street (Williamsville Animal Hospital)**

**Certificate of Appropriateness**

**Egress of Front Door & Modification of Canopy and Front Entry Alcove**

Williamsville Animal Hospital was represented by Marc Velocci from Silvestri Architects. Explained how the vestibule and door would be brought inward 2 feet to give a 5 foot x 5 foot landing. Brick for 2 foot returns to match rest of building face. Canopy will be extended 2 feet to meet the transom. The underneath of the canopy will match what currently exists. Same door.

Vice-Chair Waterman-Kulpa made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness to move the Main Street exterior door into the building an additional 2 feet, with the brick extensions also extending into the building an additional 2 feet, to create a 5 x 5 foot landing for an exterior door swing. Applicant is to submit brick sample and paint chip for approval by the Historic Preservation Commission prior to the start of the work. The underside of the canopy will be extended 2 feet towards the transom. It will be stuccoed and painted to match the existing underside of the canopy.

The motion was seconded by Member Walker. Ayes 5, Noes 0.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Catherine Waterman-Kulpa, Vice-Chairperson
SECONDER:	Patricia Walker, Member
AYES:	Bannon, DeLaney, Herman, Waterman-Kulpa, Walker

**2. 5688 Main Street (Tesori)**

**Certificate of Appropriateness**

**Window Replacement**

Kevin Campbell of 5688 Main Street LLC was in attendance. This Certificate of Appropriateness had previously been approved and the scope of work has not changed. The certificate expired as the work had not started within a year. Vice-Chair Waterman-Kulpa asked if anyone needed a refresher on the history of the application. The members felt it was not needed.

Vice-Chair Waterman-Kulpa made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness with no change in work scope as previously submitted.

The motion was seconded by Member DeLaney. Ayes 5, Noes 0.

RESULT:	APPROVED (UNANIMOUS)
MOVER:	Catherine Waterman-Kulpa, Vice-Chairperson
SECONDER:	Kathleen DeLaney, Member
AYES:	Bannon, DeLaney, Herman, Waterman-Kulpa, Walker

**3. 5402 Main Street (Williamsville Cemetery)  
Certificate of Appropriateness  
Columbarium and Closure of Pathway**

**First Item: Columbarium**

Julie Snyder, CEO of Forest Lawn Cemetery Group, spoke about the demand for additional burial space and that they have pivoted from traditional burials as many people are choosing cremations.

Christopher Converse of Forest Lawn explained they were going through the process of mapping the cemeteries to find more room. Get calls almost every day from people trying to find space, but in-ground space is harder and harder to find. The footprint for the columbarium proposed would house 144 cremation units which can be single or double, up to 288 bodies.

The Commission said that they would like to see a map of how the cemetery is laid out. While they took a field trip to walk the cemetery it was difficult to visualize with snow and undefined boundaries. The Commission felt the design of the columbarium does not fit with the Village and the historic nature of cemetery. The location of the proposed columbarium is currently being used for snow storage. Concerned about what would happen with the extra snow once the columbarium was erected. Also concerned about drainage issues.

Vice-Chair Waterman-Kulpa asked the Commission if there were any concerns about the design. The Commission asked Mr. Converse several questions about the design and what the other options are for design. Also asked if there was a long-term plan for space issue. Indicated they were happy to work with them and the mapping of the cemetery would really help.

Ms. Snyder indicated that the columbarium image provided was not the best image to use for the Williamsville Cemetery. Mentioned there was another style of columbarium in place in Oakwood Cemetery in East Aurora which they would liken in some ways to the Williamsville Cemetery. Believes they can provide us with better images and options for the columbarium. Stated they have more work to do on that.

Applicant asked to withdraw their application for Certificate of Appropriateness for the erection of the columbarium. They will return at a later date with updated options.

**Second Item: Service Road**

Vice-Chair asked about how they would even out the path that is there now. Topography and drainage are the issues with this application. Asked several questions about how the road is used by vehicles and access to the existing headstones to determine if the path was needed. The Commission doesn't have an issue with getting rid of the service road as long as they maintain the lines, but are concerned with drainage issues.

Applicant asked to withdraw their application for Certificate of Appropriateness to give them time to determine drainage and topography issues. They will resubmit application.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Mr. Campbell of 5688 Main Street LLC asked the Commission if he was to replace additional windows in the building with the exact same windows they just approved, would he need to come back for another Certificate for the additional windows? James Quinn will follow up with applicant to confirm, but he believes he would need to reapply for the other windows using the same process.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chair Waterman-Kulpa made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Member Herman and carried. Ayes 5, Noes 0.

RESULT:           ADJOURNED
-----------------------------

The Historic Preservation Commission meeting of January 23, 2023, was adjourned at 9:06pm. The next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on February 27, 2024, at 6:30pm.

Recording of January 23 meeting can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8isUPalwkyY&t=139s>