

**Village of Skaneateles**  
**Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission**  
**May 12, 2010**

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Modifications to the application for 42 East Genesee Street, Dr. Robert Kiltz project

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Present: Charles Williams, Chairman  
Pat Blackler, Member  
Beverly White, Member  
David Neibert, Member  
Mona Smalley, Member  
Karlene Miller, Member

Jorge Battle, Clerk to the Historical Commission

Andrew Ramsgard, Architect for the applicant

Frank Cavaiole, 75 East Genesee Street

Absent: Kihm Winship, Member  
Katharine Dyson, Member

Chairman Williams opened the meeting at 8:12pm. This is a continuation of the meeting of April 14, 2010.

Andrew Ramsgard, Architect for the project said, "...the roof is metal so the roof..." "...the roof is fireproof," said Chairman Williams." Ramsgard said, "everything can burn if you get it hot enough – or evaporate. You asked us to simplify the door. So basically we went for a very simple approach. We took out all the curlicues out. It's a triple unit across the front." Member Neibert asked, "is that a beveled glass or is that an etched bead?" Ramsgard said, "it's a mullion, a divided light. That will be metal too."

Member Blackler asked, "all three of these doors open?" Ramsgard said, "all 3 of them open, yes. The center unit will be the active unit - the one they will use all the time. We wanted the look to be the same all the way across." Member Miller said, "it looks nice." Member Neibert said, "that's a big improvement." Member Smalley said, "much better than the wrought iron was." Member Neibert said, "it has a period look now instead of Tuscany."

Chairman Williams asked, "the door on either side, they go to different places?" Ramsgard said, "the same spot. it's all one opening." The Chairman said, "I know it's all open in there now." Ramsgard said, "it is basically going to stay one big open room." Member Miller asked, "what will be in there?" Ramsgard replied, "I'm not sure. We designed and got the spa approved for the lower lever but, he's not sure he really wants to put it in. He has thought about –

he's a potter, and has a studio out at his house in Spafford. He was thinking about moving his potting studio here and doing pottery and have a gallery – having his wheel and kiln right there. Or leasing it out as back to a retail spot.”

Member Smalley asked, “we are just going to do the outside?” Ramsgard said, “just going to get the outside done. Three doors across gives him opportunity to be flexible any way he wanted. He could put an interior partition wall in there and divide it up.” Member Blackler asked, “he's not too disappointed in the fact that you made it classical?” Ramsgard said, “Robert is pretty easy going. He really liked the other one but he liked this too. So he wants to make everybody happy.” Member Miller said, “I like this a lot.”

The Chairman said, “down the road you mentioned a kiln in there maybe. I am just wondering about the exhaust?” Ramsgard said, “it's electric. It is not gas fired. With Village electric, why would you do anything else?” The Chairman said, “that's a way to fire ceramics. You can do it either way, but you get a little more atmosphere adjustments with gas that you can with electric. That's down the road and doesn't portend to us.”

Member Smalley asked, “what will the colors be?” Ramsgard said, “the bronze.” Member Miller said, “I think it's very nice.”

Member Blackler asked, “do we talk about the back?” Ramsgard said, “yes. I'd like to talk about the back but if we could do the front to just get one thing done.” Member Smalley said, “when we were talking about colors, are the colors...?” Ramsgard said, “all of that's already done. The roof's copper and it hasn't turned yet.” The Chairman said, “the computer printer colors don't come out the same as this bronze. But it's close.” Member Neibert said, “I think it looks nice.” Member Miller said, “I like it a lot.” Member White said, “I don't see any problems with it.” Member Neibert said, **“I make a motion to approve (the front) per the drawings H1.2 dated 14 April, 2010.”** Seconded by Member Miller. The vote was 6-0 in favor of the motion.

Ramsgard continued, “the second half of the proposal is to talk about the 2 proposed spiral staircases in the back. One of the things we went to look at when we were out there, one of them you can't even see from anywhere in the back because it's set way back. The top part where you see the gable, you can just barely see the top of the gable at the edge of the water. You can't see the railing or any of that upper part. The only one that you'd be able to see would be the one from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. We are proposing to have that stair because the living level, the main living level is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and there's a big deck up on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor which is part of the existing structure. So, in the nice weather, when you get to use it, you walk from the kitchen up to the deck without having to go all the way back through the entire building.” Member Neibert said, “any view of the back of the building isn't going to be from the ground in the back anyways. It's going to be from out on the Lake.” Ramsgard said, “way far away. And the farther away you get the less impact.” Member Neibert said, “because that's just private parking. There's no pedestrian traffic back there.”

The Chairman said, “you don't have a side view really... a sectional view to show the set-back.” Ramsgard said, “you'd only see – yes you could show it in section, but you could never

see it anywhere.” The Chairman said, “it would be just for our use. Because looking at this view here that we have of the back of the building, this reddish brick here, that actually sets back 15 feet from the face of these lower 3 floors. The 4<sup>th</sup> floor is set back 15 feet.” Ramsgard said, “and the fifth floor goes back another 6 feet.”

Member White asked, “and it’s all metal?” Ramsgard replied, “it’s all metal, yes.” Member White asked about the treads, “the treads are red but the won’t be red, right?” Ramsgard said, “there’s a vertical part... the treads are all open metal, but there is a little bit of a riser, but it’s very thin. It’s metal.” Member Neibert asked, “so that fifth floor is actually is another 6 feet back past the fourth floor which is 15 feet back?” Ramsgard said, “right.”

Member Miller asked, “what is that for?” Ramsgard said, “the 5<sup>th</sup> floor is a bedroom.” Chairman Williams said, “from the seawall, standing 6 feet up almost, you don’t see these windows on the top floor. You see the pediment up here.” Ramsgard said, “you can see the tip of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. You can’t see any of the 4<sup>th</sup> floor because of the way it sets back.”

Member Neibert said, “this spiral stairs going from the 3<sup>rd</sup> up to the 4<sup>th</sup> is the one????the other one would bet set back 15 feet.” Member Miller said, “you wouldn’t see that.” The Chairman asked, “is a spiral staircase the only way then can get there?” Ramsgard said, “on the back of the building – yes. If you ran a straight run, it would break across the entire building and cover all your windows....with the brick in the background, it’s very thin. It’s very airy looking.” Member Neibert said, “I don’t object to the spiral stair.” Member Miller asked, “didn’t we approve this before?” Ramsgard said, “we didn’t approve the spiral stairs. We approved all the balconies, all the materials, all the doors and windows – al been approved. it is just the spiral staircases.”

Member Miller said, “**I make a motion that we approve the spiral staircases as presented per drawing H1.2 dated 14 April, 2010.**” Seconded by Member Neibert. Member Miller said, “I think it’s the right thing to do.” Member Neibert said, “they are less obtrusive than a straight run stairway.” Member Smalley asked, “the staircase goes up in front of the window between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors.” Ramsgard said, “that’s the only way. We couldn’t put it over. It’s the only way.” Member Neibert said, “because the 5<sup>th</sup> floor doesn’t extend out to the edge of the building.” Ramsgard said, “they have a very transparent field. They don’t visually take up a lot of space.”

The vote was Member Blackler – abstaining. Chairman Williams, and Members Smalley, Neibert, White, Miller –Yes. The motion was passed.

The meeting was closed at 8:26pm.