


CITY OF CLAREMONT
Historic District Commission Meeting
 Friday, April 10, 2015 7:00 PM
 City Hall, Council Chambers

MINUTES
Approved 4/23/2015

I. Roll Call

Members Present: Kristin Kenniston, David Messier, James Reed

Absent: Richard Wahrlich

Chairman Messier called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. New Business

- **HDC 2015-00005 James & Lori Roy, 7 Pleasant Street** – for commercial signage at 7 Pleasant Street. Tax Map 120, Lot 53. Zone: MU

Applicant, James Roy, stated that the correct address for the project site is 1 Pleasant Street, Suite 101.

Mr. Roy stated that he is proposing to open a jewelry store in the former Harrington Jeweler space. He would like to place three signs in the same locations as Harrington’s signs – one over each window and one over the door. The signs over the windows will be 12 in. x 9.5 ft, ¾-inch MDO signs (similar to the Jeanne Shaheen sign) that say *Jozach Jewelers*. The sign over the door will be 12 in. x 10 ft. and will say *Diamonds and Gifts*. All of the signs will be in the same plane. Black awnings with no lettering will be replaced over the windows. The signs will fit into the rectangular space directly above the windows and door. No architectural features will be covered by the signs.

The Commission had no further questions for the applicant. Chairman Messier opened the public hearing. Mr. and Mrs. Roy were the only people in the audience so the hearing was closed. The Commission addressed their criteria. Mrs. Kenniston read the architectural inventory sheet for the building.

HDC Criteria	
1. Does the building have historic, architectural or cultural value?	The building is very important to the downtown. It has architectural value of the highest rating. Oscar Brown was a well-known person in Claremont, so the building has historical significance. The building has no outstanding cultural value although the 3 rd floor was used as Society Halls in 1894. The exterior of this part of the building, though not original to the building, was well-designed. It stands out as its own architectural piece. There was consensus on this criterion.
2. Are the proposed exterior design, arrangement, textures, and materials compatible with the existing buildings or	The Commission agreed that this criterion is not applicable to this project.

structures and to the setting and surrounding uses?	
3. Are the scale and size of the proposed improvements compatible with the existing surroundings? (including height, width, street frontage, number of stories, roof type, façade openings such as windows, doors, etc., and architectural details)	The Commission agreed that this criterion is not applicable to this project.
4. How will the proposed improvements (signs, lights, yards, off-street parking, screening, fencing, entrance drive, sidewalks, and landscaping) affect the character of any building or structure within the district?	The new signs will improve the appearance of the storefront. The proposed signs (their size, placement, and design) speak well to the style of the building. The Commission agreed that these signs will have a positive impact on the neighborhood.
5. What impact will the proposal have on the setting? To what extent will the proposal help to preserve and enhance the historic, architectural, and cultural qualities of the district and the community?	The design of the signs enhances the qualities of the district. They signify an open business in the downtown. All were in agreement on this criterion.
6. Is the proposal in keeping with the Secretary of Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation?	This project does not involve rehabilitation of the building. The signs and their placement can be removed without damaging the building. All were in agreement.

Motion: To approve the application as presented.

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston **Second:** Mr. Reed **Vote:** Unanimous in favor

III. Other

IV. Correspondence

V. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston **Second:** Mr. Reed **Vote:** Unanimous in favor

Meeting adjourned at 7:11PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Resource Coordinator