



**CITY OF PEEKSKILL  
HISTORIC AND LANDMARKS PRESERVATION BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**December 24, 2019**

Full video of October available [here](#).

The Historic and Landmarks Preservation Board (the “Board” or “HLPB”) held a meeting December 5, 2019 at 7:30 pm.

All members were present, including City Planner Jesica Youngblood.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

**I. ACCEPTANCE OF MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting minutes from October 24, 2019 were accepted as corrected.

The vote to accept the meeting minutes from September was motioned by Member Handler and seconded by Member Wiggins. The vote is shown below:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Chair Martone	Aye
Vice Chair Squillante	Aye
Member Cunningham	Aye
Member Handler	Aye
Member O’Brien	Aye
Member Snee	Aye
Member Wiggins	Aye

**II. CONTINUED APPLICATIONS**

*None.*

**III. NEW APPLICATIONS**

**1. *730 South Street***

Applicant	Signs Ink (o/b/o tenant)
Occupant	Marcus Perez
Owner	Drew Claxton/Ted Bitter
SBL	33.29-5-2
RE:	Certificate of Appropriateness review for approval of illuminated LED signage for a commercial establishment located at 730 South Street in the Downtown Historic District.

The Chair opened the application and asked the Applicant’s representative (Signs Ink) to provide a summary, which included the deli owner installed signage unaware of the regulations required for compliance. The representative stated that the deli and mart does very well, and they would like to keep the installed sign. Also, Signs Ink stated that

the building had been painted orange but was later painted white after discussion with the Building Department.

Next, Signs Ink requested that the Board allow the installed 21" lettering and the internally-illuminated light box signage.

The Chair began discussing several topics relating to the installed signage including what is installed is incorrectly sized, internally illuminated, not centered, and has exposed conduit/electrical wiring. The Chair reiterated that the guidelines strongly recommend external illumination, and the illumination is currently white.

The Chair asked the rest of the Board to express any comments or questions. Member Snee asked if the existing sign is in violation, to which the Chair responded affirmatively. Vice Chair Squillante expressed concern that the rules applied to all properties within the district. Member Wiggins stated that the lit box is not permitted in the Downtown Historic District, so the entire sign is not in compliance. Member Handler agreed with the previous comments.

Signs Ink then proposed to the Board that the Applicant could remove the light box, remove the interior illumination, center the sign, put goosenecks for lighting, and change the sign facing to another color (e.g. black) for improved visibility during the day.

Member O'Brien made a comment about the lights, to which Signs Ink said the letters could not be reduced in size but rather would have to be remade, which is expensive. The Vice Chair also asked how could the sign be acceptable if incorrect letter sizing exists. Given the financial situation that Signs Ink described, Member Snee asked if the Signs Ink would be willing to remake a new sign at no cost.

Chair Martone then read from the guidelines that says Applicants should always consult the Department of Public Works before committing to purchase of a sign. She further stated that the building is not large enough to support such large lettering. The Chair made several other comments regarding out-of-compliance items, including the presence of flashing electronic 'open' signs and posters in the windows can only cover a maximum of 10%.

To reiterate the adopted design guidelines for the Historic District, the Chair reiterated the regulations with respect to the signage.

After the Applicant's representative spouted insensitive comments and opinions towards the Board, the Chair ushered for a vote on the following elements: keeping the 21" size letters, adding goosenecks, changing letters to black, turning off illumination, and removing the light box sign. Member O'Brien made a motion with a second provided by Vice Chair Squillante. The vote to deny the existing signage with proposed changes as previously discussed is presented is shown below on next page:

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<b><u>Member</u></b>	<b><u>Vote</u></b>
Chair Martone	Nay
Vice Chair Squillante	Aye
Member Cunningham	Nay
Member Handler	Nay
Member O'Brien	Nay
Member Snee	Nay
Member Wiggins	Nay

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**V. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:08 PM.