

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on February 10, 2015 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson  
Douglas Ovian, Vice Chairperson and Clerk Pro Tem  
Mark Raymond  
John Aforismo, Alternate

Members Absent: John Maycock, Clerk  
Chris Lyons  
Damian Cregeau, Alternate

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator  
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Ovian, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on January 29, 2015.

**APPLICATION NO. 4343-15.** John Petruck seeks to construct 30' of 5' tongue and groove cedar fence between the driveways at 62 Center Street. (Tabled at the January 13, 2015 meeting. The last date to act is February 24, 2015.)

John Petruck, 62 Center Street, appeared before the Commission. He would like to install a 5' x 30' cedar fence along the left side of the driveway, but not quite to the front of the garage to allow for access to the garage. There will be a transition piece from 5' to 4' at the forward end. All cedar posts will have caps. There will be a 6" offset off the property line. The good side of the fence will face the neighbor. The fence won't be installed right away. There will probably be 3½ lengths of fence.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4344-14.** Matt Cooper seeks to retain the demolition of the lean-to shed attached to the garage at 130 Hartford Avenue.

Matt Cooper, 179 Broad Street, appeared before the Commission. Photos were submitted. He decided to take down the entire lean-to shed. He needs to re-side the entire side. He will re-side with aluminum siding and he will match the color as closely as possible. The siding on the house is an original color and not painted. He will have to paint the new siding to match. He won't have to replace any of the trim.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4345-15.** Vacek Miglus seeks to demolish the existing garage and construct a 30'x44' barn at 31 Main Street.

Vacek Miglus, 31 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. Drawings and models were submitted. The dimensions have been changed to 46'x28'. It will be 23.5' high. There is approximately 60' between the house and the garage. The barn will be all wood with true divided light windows. There will be no decorative trim and no corner boards. There will be board and batten siding on the lower side and shingles on the upper side. The roofing will be standing seam – true metal painted dark red. There will be metal boxed gutters which will be integrated into the roof. There will be true carriage wood doors with standard black hardware and strap hinges. The foundation will be 6" exposed concrete.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4346-15.** Town of Wethersfield seeks to recertify Certificate of Appropriateness Number 3730-09 to construct a dock and boat ramp at Cove Park.

Kathy Bagley, Parks & Recreation Director, 505 Silas Deane Highway, appeared before the Commission. They are ready to proceed with the dock and boat ramp. In 2009, they received approvals from all departments so they could submit the application to DEEP. The approvals and funding are now in place. There are no changes to the application. There are currently three docks, but there will now be one main dock and one fishing dock. They will work on the dock project first. The docks are designed to float with the tide and the high water that they get in the Cove. The system that will be used is helix anchors (photos submitted). You don't see any pylons sticking up. The docks are designed to stay in year round. They would like to have these installed this calendar year. The dock is made of a polyurethane material.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application.

Dan Decourcy, 538 Main Street, voiced concerns over the application.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone else wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4347-15.** Tracey McDougall seeks to remove a second floor rear window at 45 Nott Street.

Tracey McDougall, 45 Nott Street, appeared before the Commission. She will be renovating her upstairs bathroom. She would like to remove the existing window and fill in the area with stucco to match the existing as best as possible. The window is actually on the side of the house, not the rear. The stucco is not painted. It's a natural color.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4348-15.** Tom and Erin Kennedy seek to replace the front door and lighting and to change the color of the artificial siding at 107 Garden Street.

Tom Kennedy, 107 Garden Street, appeared before the Commission. Photos of the lights were submitted. They will be on either side of the front door and they will be a dark bronze color. A photo of the door was also submitted. It will be molded fiberglass, white in color, with clear glass. It will be painted. The siding color will now be Monterey Taupe instead of Sandstone.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Ovian, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4343-15.** John Petruck seeks to construct 30' of 5' tongue and groove cedar fence between the driveways at 62 Center Street. (Tabled at the January 13, 2015 meeting. The last date to act is February 24, 2015.)

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Ovian and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that it's currently a shared driveway but not a shared entrance. The massing issue doesn't bring the fence too far forward. It may be visually pleasing to the owner.

Commissioner Garrey stated that a fence is where people want a fence. We have a lot of tight driveways with fencing in between them. He understands the abutter's concern, but it's not the commission's concern. The applicants are trying to give themselves privacy in the rear of the house without bringing the barrier all the way forward.

Commissioner Raymond stated that if someone wants to put up a fence in their yard, as long as it's appropriate ...

Commissioner Aforismo stated that they are looking at the structure and what it's made of versus anything else. He has other concerns that shouldn't be taken into consideration. It's just the fence.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4344-14.** Matt Cooper seeks to retain the demolition of the lean-to shed attached to the garage at 130 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The siding shall be replaced to match the existing in material and design.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that it's going to look better now.

Commissioner Garrey stated that there is public view, but it's a minimal change. It's an improvement.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4345-15.** Vacek Miglus seeks to demolish the existing garage and construct a 30'x44' barn at 31 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The gutter shall be an integrated metal boxed gutter if desired by the applicant.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that the massing is perfect. The short side faces Main Street. It's not imposing onto Main Street. It's a building that takes advantage of the deep lot. It's a similar era to the house so it's consistent with what else is there.

Commissioner Garrey stated that it's a beautiful barn. It's what you would love to see.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4346-15.** Town of Wethersfield seeks to recertify Certificate of Appropriateness Number 3730-09 to construct a dock and boat ramp at Cove Park.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that they've all seen this before. It's a large dock system but it's not inappropriate in any way. It won't look that overwhelming when it's in place. It will be interesting to see the anchor system.

Commissioner Ovian stated that this has already gone through many layers of review with favorable outcomes. The concerns about its imposition in the area have been accounted for by the other reviews.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4347-15.** Tracey McDougall seeks to remove a second floor rear window at 45 Nott Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that there is no detriment to the look of the building. There's a lot going on already to give visual interest to that side. It's a beautiful house.

Commissioner Garrey stated that he's never happy to lose a window, but it's sometimes necessary. It's not in a place where it will be very noticeable, provided that the contractor can match the stucco

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4348-15.** Tom and Erin Kennedy seek to replace the front door and lighting and to change the color of the artificial siding at 107 Garden Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The artificial siding color shall be Monterey Taupe.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that there is certainly more “new” than original to this house. You will see a new house that does a nice job of bringing in some of the detail from the original.

Commissioner Ovian stated that the house is evolving from a farm house where the light wouldn't be the most appropriate match, to a house that is a little more Craftsman inspired. The door and the lighting they have chosen are part of the fashion of the times.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

### **MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2015**

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond, seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian, seconded by Commissioner Aforismo and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the Annual Report to the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Public comments on general matters of the Historic District**

None.

**Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

1. Commissioner Wurzer has decided to resign from the Commission. Kristin thanked her for her years of service.
2. Photo Survey – The photographers are ready to start the photo survey. They have the addresses and they plan to begin taking photographs in early spring.

**Correspondence**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond, seconded by Commissioner Ovian and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:37 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Aforismo

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Douglas Ovian  
- Clerk Pro Tem -