

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on November 8, 2016 at the Wethersfield Police Department, Community Room – 250 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson  
Douglas Ovian, Vice Chairperson  
Mark Raymond, Clerk  
Chris Lyons  
Damien Cregeau, Alternate

Members Absent: Jennifer Wolf  
John Aforismo, Alternate  
Daniel Bucknam, 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 Raymond read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on October 27, 2016.

**APPLICATION NO. 4554-16.** Amy Bello seeks to install a wrought iron handrail on both sides of the front stairs and to bring the stairs up to current building codes at 311 Hartford Avenue.

Amy Bello, 311 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. There are currently more steps than there should be without a railing. A drawing was submitted. They would like to install railing to each side to bring the stairs to code. The 38" rail will be black wrought iron with straight balusters.

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. 4555-16.** The Town of Wethersfield seeks to 1) remove the current fuel pumps from the fueling station; 2) install under the existing fuel canopy a 34'L x 8'9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"H x 8'W above ground dual 6,000 gallon fuel steel tank encased in 6" concrete with included mechanicals/pumps; 3) install 4"x36" bollards to surround the fuel tank according to regulations and 4) demolish the existing concrete pad and install a new reinforced concrete pad to meet weight requirements for the above ground fuel tank at 100 Marsh Street.

Sally Katz, Director of Physical Services, Town of Wethersfield, 100 Marsh Street, appeared before the Commission. They currently have two underground 6,000 gallon fuel tanks that are past their useful life. The above ground tanks are much safer and they will be used to fuel every truck in the physical services fleet, the police vehicles, some fire apparatus, etc. The canopy will be over the tanks. The tanks will be encapsulated in 6" of concrete. Photos of other facilities with similar tanks were submitted. Bollards will surround the tanks and the tanks will sit on a pad above the ground. The old pumps will be removed. The new pumps are actually attached to the new tanks.

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. 4556-16.** THD At-Home Services seeks to replace two (2) existing patio doors with replacement patio doors at 6 Sharon Lane.

John Lawler, 6 Sharon Lane, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace one patio door and one three-panel window. They would like to use the same standard windows as used on previous units. They will be vinyl windows in a bronze color. The three panel sliding window will match the existing.

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. 4557-16.** Robert and Nicole Hart seek to construct a retaining wall in the rear yard consisting of approximately 20' of 2' Versa Lok block in the color butternut on the east side of the property and approximately 20' of 3' Versa Lok block in the color butternut on the west side of the property at 13 Harmund Court.

Robert Hart, 13 Harmund Court, appeared before the Commission. Drawings were submitted. They would like to install a retaining wall in the rear yard that will be approximately 20' of 2' Versa Lok block on the east side and approximately 20' of 3' Versa Lok block on the west side. The Versa Lok block will be in the color butternut. A photo of the product was provided.

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, Lyons, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4554-16.** Amy Bello seeks to install a wrought iron handrail on both sides of the front stairs and to bring the stairs up to current building codes at 311 Hartford Avenue.

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 it has minimal impact on the District. It accomplishes a code improvement while doing so in a subtle manner.

Commissioner Garrey stated that he doesn't think that doing a chunky wood railing there to mimic the porch rail would be as successful.

Commissioner Raymond stated that on the side portico there are some remnants of wrought iron, so it works.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4555-16.** The Town of Wethersfield seeks to 1) remove the current fuel pumps from the fueling station; 2) install under the existing fuel canopy a 34'L x 8'9¾"H x 8'W above ground dual 6,000 gallon fuel steel tank encased in 6" concrete with included mechanicals/pumps; 3) install 4"x36" bollards to surround the fuel tank according to regulations and 4) demolish the existing concrete pad and install a new reinforced concrete pad to meet weight requirements for the above ground fuel tank at 100 Marsh Street.

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that it's a large concrete structure, but as a massing issue on that property, it's minimal impact.

Commissioner Ovian stated that it's a necessary improvement in an area that is already been sensitively designed to work with its neighbors. The town has done a great job at 100 Marsh Street overall and this is essentially an internal change to the existing area. The imposition is really going to be greater on them.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4556-16.** THD At-Home Services seeks to replace two (2) existing patio doors with replacement patio doors at 6 Sharon Lane.

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

1. The window and door shall be in the same color and style as currently exists.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian asked if they had a particular brand that has been established as the model here.

Commissioner Garrey stated that we have used a brand which he is stating is what he went off of, but we don't know what that is. These are probably the lowest impact windows in the District as long as they are the same color.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian Raymond, Lyons, Cregeau

**APPLICATION NO. 4557-16.** Robert and Nicole Hart seek to construct a retaining wall in the rear yard consisting of approximately 20' of 2' Versa Lok block in the color butternut on the east side of the property and approximately 20' of 3' Versa Lok block in the color butternut on the west side of the property at 13 Harmund Court.

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that the minimal height is what makes it something other than an eyesore. If it was going to be higher than that, he thinks they would have to talk about shielding it in some way with plantings.

Commissioner Garrey stated that even though they are sizable walls, there is a minimal impact except to the abutters. It's not going to be an imposing structure.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Cregeau

**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 25, 2016**

Upon motion by Commissioner Lyons, seconded by Commissioner Ovian and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the October 25, 2016 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons

**PRE-APPLICATION HEARING**

Eric Cavoli, 311 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. He discussed plans to demolish the rear porch and construct an addition in its place. A rough sketch of the proposed addition was provided and materials were discussed.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Public Comments on General Matters of the Historic District**

None.

**Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

None.

**Correspondence**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond, seconded by Commissioner Ovan and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Ovan, Raymond, Lyons, Cregeau

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mark Raymond  
- Clerk -