

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on January 10, 2012 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson
Michael Rell, Vice Chairperson
John Maycock, Acting Clerk
Susan Gillanders, Alternate

Members Absent: Bette Botticello, Clerk
Cynthia Greenblatt
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate
Mark Raymond, 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 Maycock, Acting Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on December 29, 2011.

APPLICATION NO. 4006-12. Joseph Sipala seeking to change the size of the bathroom window to 30" x 15" and replace the existing bathroom double hung window with an awning style window at 257-259 Hartford Avenue.

Joseph Sipala, 259 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. He would like to change two bathroom windows, one on each floor, on the driveway side of the house. He would like to change the window size to 30"x15" and will use an Anderson A Series awning style window with fiberglass exterior and pinewood interior painted white with the muntins on the outside of the glass. The house currently has 6/1 or 4/1 light patterned windows. The siding and trim will match existing. He would like to use a frosted glass for privacy.

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

George Urbanik, 2 Wilcox Street, spoke in favor of 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. 4007-12. Carolyn Tobias seeking to install signage for a business at 137 Main Street.

Carolyn Tobias, 137 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. She would like to install a new business sign on an existing post and a new sign over the door. The post sign will be 27" x 21" and the sign over the single door on the barn is 20" x 6". The signs will be constructed in a PVC-type material. They will have a cream background, sapphire blue and gold stripe, and the lettering is blue. The signs will be carved and the lettering will be a Florentine design. The post sign will be double-sided.

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. 4008-12. James and Doris Stamos seeking to amend application number 3899-11 to extend the expiration date beyond January 12, 2012 and to change the front door design from a single door to a double door and eliminate the side lights at 504 Main Street.

Doris Stamos, 504 Main Street, and Hap Sheperd, 122 Naubuc Avenue, Glastonbury appeared before the Commission. The front door design will change from a single door to a double door because the door frame is not stable and the size of the door was non-standard. They would like to use a Spanish cedar door. It is a typical 1750s type of door. The door will be double-paneled on each side. The hardware will be a thumb latch. There will be no side lights by the door. They would also like a three month extension to the January 12, 2012 expiration date.

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. 4009-12. Amy Northrop Wittorff seeking to amend application number 3995-11 to change the style of lighting fixtures and to change the replacement windows from Marvin Infinity fiberglass to Marvin Ultimate aluminum clad wood at 17 Center Street.

Amy Northrop Wittorff, 17 Center Street, appeared before the Commission. A lighting fixture sample was brought in – it is solid brass. She would like to change the window manufacturer/construction to a Marvin Ultimate insert window. They are wood clad with aluminum on the outside, white in color, in the same sizes and light patterns.

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 Maycock seconded by Commissioner Rell, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications and open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4006-12. Joseph Sipala seeking to change the size of the bathroom window to 30" x 15" and replace the existing bathroom double hung window with an awning style window at 257-259 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulations:

1. The siding and trim shall match the existing in wood.
2. The glass shall be frosted for privacy.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is a change in style but it works for the house. There is no major impact.

Commissioner Garrey stated that it reads like a bathroom window and it mirrors the narrow windows on the opposite side of the building. In his mind, he was thinking that in an awning window you wouldn't have the dividers, but with the frosted glass, you won't read them anyway. Not a radical change.

Commissioner Rell stated that it is symmetrical too - in the center on both stories.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4007-12. Carolyn Tobias seeking to install signage for a business at 137 Main Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that the commission has approved other signs before in this material and there isn't much of a difference when it is painted.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4008-12. James and Doris Stamos seeking to amend application number 3899-11 to extend the expiration date beyond January 12, 2012 and to change the front door design from a single door to a double door and eliminate the side lights at 504 Main Street.

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

1. Certificate of Appropriateness number 3899-11 shall have the expiration date extended to April 30, 2012.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a really nice change.

Commissioner Maycock stated that he likes the door.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4009-12. Amy Northrop Wittorff seeking to amend application number 3995-11 to change the style of lighting fixtures and to change the replacement windows from Marvin Infinity fiberglass to Marvin Ultimate aluminum clad wood at 17 Center Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that he likes the aluminum clad windows better. They will work very successfully. The light fixture is gorgeous.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, the 2011 Annual Report to the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism was APPROVED as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2011 AND DECEMBER 13, 2011

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the minutes of the November 8, 2011 and December 13, 2011 meetings.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

PRE-APPLICATION HEARING

Thomas Wilson seeking to discuss the restoration of the barn at 350 Main Street which was damaged in a fire.

Thomas Wilson, 350 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. He would like to put vinyl windows in and change the aluminum siding to vinyl wood grain. There are wood shingles on each end and the dormer on the front has scalloped shingles. Photos were provided. The roof is currently 3 tab shingles. He would like to change it to architectural or standing seam. The barn sits 240' off the street. He wants to restore the cupola and cover it with vinyl. The hayloft door would be replaced with a standard garage door in vinyl or equivalent. The Commission suggested other materials for the applicant to review and consider which included wood windows and doors, wood siding or cement board siding and composite material trim. The Commission also suggested wood for the cupola.

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 Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Rell, Maycock, Gillanders

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John Maycock
Clerk