

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on December 13, 2011 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Michael Rell, Vice Chairperson
Cynthia Greenblatt, Acting Clerk
Susan Gillanders, Alternate

Members Absent: Robert Garrey, Chairperson
Bette Botticello, Clerk
John Maycock
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate
Mark Raymond, Alternate

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

Commissioner Rell called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Greenblatt, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on December 1, 2011.

APPLICATION NO. 3999-11. Eric Lindgren seeking to amend application number 3802-10 to retain the following modifications of the addition; a window on the second story of the north elevation, two windows in the basement, a handrail for the stairs on the south elevation, and a structure for basement access on the east elevation at 15 Willard Street.

Peter Johnson, 15 Willard Street, appeared before the Commission. Drawings were submitted. He was originally going to install a bulkhead door for basement access but built an enclosure with a door. The roofing material and siding match the existing. He also installed two basement windows on the new foundation. The basement windows are Windsor vinyl windows with a wood casing to match the existing basement windows. The windows are two pane, sliding windows with a ½ screen. The Building Department required that a handrail be installed on the stairs by the driveway. It is a metal round handrail that is black, but painted white. A window was also added on the second story for the bathroom and it matches the other windows installed on the addition.

Commissioner Rell 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. 4000-11. The Town of Wethersfield seeking to install a memorial park bench to match the existing green metal park benches on the South Green off Elm Street on the Broad Street Green.

Kathy Bagley, Town of Wethersfield Parks & Recreation Director, appeared before the Commission. She would like to install a park bench on the Broad Street Green. It will be located on the South Green (off of Elm Street). There are three other benches in that area and this will complete that area. The bench matches the existing green benches that are there now. It will be a memorial bench. It faces in to the Green. There will be no concrete footings on the Green.

Commissioner Rell 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. 4001-11. The Town of Wethersfield seeking to retain the installed PVC venting system necessary for a new boiler at 161 Main Street.

Mike Turner, Town of Wethersfield Director of Public Works, appeared before the Commission. The town has installed an exhaust pipe on the new high efficiency boiler at Firehouse #1. It is a building code requirement for the new boiler. It is a 6" PVC pipe that extends through the existing flue with a white T. Photographs of the pipe were presented to the commission.

Commissioner Rell 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. 4002-11. Diana Stutz seeking to install signage on a 6' wood post with a black wrought iron arm at 280 Main Street.

Diana Stutz, 56 Park Avenue, appeared before the Commission. She would like to move an existing sign to her new office location. She is renting the second floor and the entrance is around the back of the building. She would like to install the sign to direct people to the entrance. The sign is white with a green logo. It is on a white painted post with a cap on top. The sign is made of wood.

Commissioner Rell 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. 3997-11. Bob and Nancy Jones seeking to construct a 25½' x 36' three bay attached garage at 5 Broad Street. (Left open at the November 22, 2011 meeting. The last date to act is December 13, 2011).

Withdrawn by the applicant through telephone correspondence received on December 13, 2011.

APPLICATION NO. 4003-11. Mary Odell seeking to install a 120 gallon propane tank on the south side of the house to be screened with a wood picket fence or wood lattice at 41 Oldham Road.

Mary Odell, 41 Oldham Road, appeared before the Commission. She would like to install a propane tank on the side of the house. She will use it for gas logs in the fireplace and there is no gas line on their street. The house juts out 4' on the southwest side and that's where she wants to put the tank. It will be partially visible from the street. The tank is 55" high x 29" wide. She would like to screen it with diamond wood lattice and paint the lattice to match the house. The posts will also be wood with a cap. It will also be covered with vegetation as it is located near her garden.

Commissioner Rell 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. 4004-11. Mitchell Tamiola and Gregory Norsigian seeking to retain the replaced front porch consisting of a design change in columns, railings, and skirting at 97 State Street.

Gregory Norsigian, 334 Fox Hill Road, appeared before the Commission. He has rebuilt the front porch due to safety concerns with pressure treated wood materials. The floor was rotted through, the stairs were not up to code, and the 2" x 4"s for the railing were falling down. The original box lattice was rotted and it is no longer available so it was replaced with a diagonal 45 lattice. The columns were not on the house when he started the work and posts have been installed to support the roof. The railings were changed. The balusters used to be square, but were replaced with turned spindles.

Commissioner Rell 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. 4005-11. Kelly Urso seeking to amend application number 3934-11 to change the stipulated vinyl siding from Napco 4" double lap in the color Grey Stone to Certainteed Monogram 4" double lap in the color Silver Ash at 425 Middletown Avenue.

Kelly Urso, 425 Middletown Avenue, appeared before the Commission. She would like to use Certainteed Monogram 4" double lap siding in the color Silver Ash.

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

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 3999-11. Eric Lindgren seeking to amend application number 3802-10 to retain the following modifications of the addition: a window on the second story of the north elevation, two windows in the basement, a handrail for the stairs on the south elevation, and a structure for basement access on the east elevation at 15 Willard Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Greenblatt inquired as to whether stipulations should be added.

Commissioner Rell stated that the work has already been completed.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4000-11. The Town of Wethersfield seeking to install a memorial park bench to match the existing green metal park benches on the South Green off Elm Street on the Broad Street Green.

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

Discussion

None.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4001-11. The Town of Wethersfield seeking to retain the installed PVC venting system necessary for a new boiler at 161 Main Street.

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

Discussion

None.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4002-11. Diana Stutz seeking to install signage on a 6' wood post with a black wrought iron arm at 280 Main Street.

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

Discussion

None.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4003-11. Mary Odell seeking to install a 120 gallon propane tank on the south side of the house to be screened with a wood picket fence or wood lattice at 41 Oldham Road.

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

1. The screening around the propane tank shall be wood lattice with a 2" x 2" diamond pattern and shall be as tall as the tank.
2. If latching mechanisms are necessary for access to the tank, they shall be black wrought iron to match the existing materials on the existing fencing.

Discussion

Commissioner Greenblatt stated that this is the second above ground tank in Old Wethersfield. The first one was approved with a solid fence and lattice at the top and screening. Does the commission want to keep it consistent?

Commissioner Gillanders stated that there will be shrubbery around the tank as well. She has no problem with it. It is in a corner in the back and has limited visibility.

Commissioner Rell stated that he doesn't mind the lattice with a 2" reveal and painted to match the house.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4004-11. Mitchell Tamiola and Gregory Norsigian seeking to retain the replaced front porch consisting of a design change in columns, railings, and skirting at 97 State Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Gillanders stated that this looks nice.

Commissioner Greenblatt stated that this was a good faith effort in a difficult situation. He was trying to make it both safe and reasonably attractive.

Commissioner Rell stated that this is a gorgeous house. It is a popular house to look at when coming in and out of DMV. He would love to see it restored to its glory. The porch spindles look good and the corner posts look good. You sometimes can't replicate original craftsmanship. Square 90 latticework while you can buy it, it is difficult to replicate original. They put in a good faith effort to match as best as they could.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

APPLICATION NO. 4005-11. Kelly Urso seeking to amend application number 3934-11 to change the stipulated vinyl siding from Napco 4" double lap in the color Grey Stone to Certainteed Monogram 4" double lap in the color Silver Ash at 425 Middletown Avenue.

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

1. The siding shall be vinyl 4" double lap siding manufactured by Certainteed and in the color Silver Ash.

Discussion

None.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2011

Upon motion by Commissioner Rell, seconded by Commissioner Greenblatt and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the minutes of the November 8, 2011 meeting.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2011

Upon motion by Commissioner Rell, seconded by Commissioner Greenblatt and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the November 22, 2011 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

Tom Wilson, 350 Main Street, discussed changes he would like to make to the barn on his property which was damaged in a fire. He was advised that a Pre-Application meeting request should be filed.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

None.

Correspondence

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Rell, seconded by Commissioner Greenblatt and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Aye: Rell, Greenblatt, Gillanders

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Cynthia Greenblatt
Acting Clerk