

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on December 14, 2010 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson
John Maycock, Vice Chairperson
Gary McLeod, Clerk
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate (Arrived at 7:32 PM)

Members Absent: Bette Botticello
Michael Rell
Susan Gillanders, 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 McLeod, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Hartford Courant* on December 3, 2010.

APPLICATION NO. 3887-10. Tom and Julie Sapia seeking to construct a 24' x 36' two (2) car garage with an attached 8' x 21' lean-to structure at 136 Main Street.

Tom and Julie Sapia of 136 Main Street appeared before the Commission. They would like to build a two (2) car garage behind their house. It will be a post and beam structure with white pine siding from Country Carpenters. It will be two bays with a lean-to. The third bay will just be for storage. It will be 20½' tall. It will be located in the northeast corner and it will be offset to the south. The total dimensions are 44' 6" x 24'. The roof will be asphalt shingle to match the house. The windows will be wood framed true divided light. The doors will be standard wood overhead doors. There will be no gutters. The lighting will match existing on the main building.

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

Howard "Buzz" Willard, 141 Main 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. 3888-10. Gove Restoration, LLC seeking to install replacement windows at 25 Belmont Street.

Adam Gove of Gove Restoration, 82 Longview, appeared before the Commission. He would like to replace all windows with Windsor Pinnacle Series Winpack sash replacement kits. The window is aluminum clad 5/8" simulated divided light. The existing windows are all original. He will keep the same size, style and light pattern as existing windows.

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. 3889-10. Cristina Sayre seeking to install replacement garage doors at 44 Summerfield Drive.

Cristina Sayre of 44 Summerfield Drive appeared before the Commission. She would like to replace two existing wood 16 panel doors with carriage style doors. They replacement doors will be steel.

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. 3890-10. Wethersfield Village Improvement Association of 150 Main Street seeking blanket approval of signage to display original owner and building date to be sold to any Wethersfield resident.

Robert Garrey, representing the Wethersfield Village Improvement Association, 150 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. They would like to propose a standard sign design that can be marketed to residents of the town to replace rotting wood signs or where there aren't signs to display original owner and date that the structures were built. It is a poly material with heat applied letters. It matches the design that was done for the Wethersfield Historical Association in 1934. There will be two or four countersunk holes with screws to apply to the house. They will all be uniform in size and lettering. They will be white with black lettering.

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

Howard "Buzz" Willard, 141 Main Street, spoke in favor of the application.

Bill Donahue of 360 Hartford Avenue asked if there was a standard location for the signs and if every Wethersfield resident has the option to purchase a sign.

Commissioner Maycock 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. 3891-10. Diana Stutz LLC seeking to install signage at 137 Main Street.

Diana Stutz of 56 Park Avenue appeared before the Commission. She would like to install a sign above the entrance door. There will also be a sign that hangs from an existing post outside. The sign will be a 44" x 10" x 3/4" sign made of painted mahogany. The post sign will be two-sided and 26" x 8" x 1 1/2" in size also of painted mahogany.

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. 3892-10. Kelly Gallivan Photography seeking to install signage at 137 Main Street.

Kelly Myers of 137 Main Street appeared before the Commission. She would like to install a sign above the entrance door. It will be 44" x 10" x ¾" barn sign. There will also be a 26" x 12" x 1½" post sign. They will be made of the same materials as Application #3891-10 (painted mahogany). They will have blue lettering and scrolls and an antique white finish.

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. 3893-10. William Donahue seeking to install replacement doors at 360 Hartford Avenue.

William Donahue of 360 Hartford Avenue appeared before the Commission. He would like to replace 7 wooden doors at the rear of the property with vinyl doors. They will be the same size and design as existing doors. The wood frames will remain.

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. 3894-10. Foster Adams and Amanda Gordon seeking to install replacement windows at 27 Nott Street.

Foster Adams and Amanda Gordon of 27 Nott Street appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace all windows in the house, excluding the windows in the attic. They would like to use Harvey Tribute simulated divided light vinyl windows with the same style, size, and light patterns as 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. 3895-10. Sherry Callahan seeking to install signage at 249 Main Street.

Sherry Callahan of 21 Jordan Lane appeared before the Commission. She would like to add a sign for 249 Main Street, the Belden Home, for her business, the Refined Society Tea Parlor. There is an existing post. There is a black wrought-iron arm that comes out from the post. The sign will be 30" x 30" x 1 ½" (same as existing sign). The lettering will be the same style as existing and black in color. The sign will only have the house number and "Refined Society Tea Parlor" on it.

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. 3896-10. Urmila Thakur seeking to construct a permanent awning over the rear deck at 257 Middletown Avenue.

Deowraj Buddhu and Urmila Thakur of 257 Middletown Avenue appeared before the Commission. They had previously received approval for a retractable canvas awning. The wind damaged the awning and they can't use it. They would like approval for a permanent awning with posts. It is 10' x 20'.

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. 3897-10. Christopher Webb seeking to replace the cedar roof with fiberglass asphalt shingles at 10 Main Street.

Christopher and Christine Webb of 10 Main Street appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace the cedar roof with architectural asphalt shingles. The color would be weathered wood which matches the existing color. They have looked into installing cedar roofing, but it is cost prohibitive and ecologically unsound. It will not last as long as architectural shingles. They will use copper flashing around the chimney.

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

Vaclav Miglus of 31 Main Street asked what type of flashing would be used on the roof.

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.

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

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3887-10. Tom and Julie Sapia seeking to construct a 24' x 36' two (2) car garage with an attached 8' x 21' lean-to structure at 136 Main Street.

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

1. The windows shall be constructed of wood and shall be true divided light.
2. The lights over the garage doors shall match the existing on the main structure.
3. The garage doors shall be constructed of wood.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this will look beautiful next to the Anderson Farm barn.

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is a nice structure.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3888-10. Gove Restoration, LLC seeking to install replacement windows at 25 Belmont Street.

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

1. The light patterns on the windows shall match the existing.
2. The application shall be amended to include all windows on the house.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that these windows have been used successfully in the District and they will work well in this house.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3889-10. Cristina Sayre seeking to install replacement garage doors at 44 Summerfield Drive.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that from a pure aesthetic standpoint, this is a beautiful door and, for the age and style of the house, this is an appropriate door.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3890-10. Wethersfield Village Improvement Association of 150 Main Street seeking blanket approval of signage to display original owner and building date to be sold to any Wethersfield resident.

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

Discussion

Commissioner McLeod stated that they might have to adjust the size of the sign, but it looks good.

Aye: Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

Abstain: Garrey

APPLICATION NO. 3891-10. Diana Stutz LLC seeking to install signage at 137 Main Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a beautiful sign.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3892-10. Kelly Gallivan Photography seeking to install signage at 137 Main Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a beautiful sign.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3893-10. William Donahue seeking to install replacement doors at 360 Hartford Avenue.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is a minimal impact.

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a beautiful property and this is minimal impact.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3894-10. Foster Adams and Amanda Gordon seeking to install replacement windows at 27 Nott Street.

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

1. All light patterns on the windows shall match the existing.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that this window has been used in the district before and there are a lot of mismatched windows on the house now.

Commissioner Garrey stated that this window will be fine for this house.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3895-10. Sherry Callahan seeking to install signage at 249 Main Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that she is matching the existing sign and the lettering. The existing sign is a perfect complement to the front door on that structure.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3896-10. Urmila Thakur seeking to construct a permanent awning over the rear deck at 257 Middletown Avenue.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this isn't any less attractive than the awning that was there prior. The posts add something to the structure.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod

Nay: Wurzer

APPLICATION NO. 3897-10. Christopher Webb seeking to replace the cedar roof with fiberglass asphalt shingles at 10 Main Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is difficult because of the age of the structure, the uniqueness of the structure, the proximity to the street and the sidewalk, the view of the roof and the chimney when you're coming around the bend as a gateway to the District. Generally, decisions are based on historic properties on what exists on the house and what is original on the house and, in this case, what exists and what is original on the house is wood. Many of the 18th Century houses in the District that have asphalt had the asphalt installed before the Commission came into existence.

Commissioner Maycock stated that he doesn't like changing this from wood. It's one of the oldest houses in the District and it will be a great loss to change it to asphalt. It's a cost problem, but it's too nice of a structure that's too important in the District to change something like that. Once the wood roof is gone, it's not coming back.

Nay: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to DENY the application without prejudice.

Discussion

No additional discussion.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 23, 2010

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Wurzer and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the November 23, 2010 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

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 Wurzer and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Wurzer

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Gary McLeod
Clerk