

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a meeting from the Wethersfield Town Hall, Conference Room #3, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut on August 12, 2025.

Members Present: Mark Raymond, Chairperson  
Chris Lyons, Vice Chairperson  
Chris Hall, Clerk  
Scott Wands  
Bruce Cutkomp, Alternate

Not Present: Peter Benson  
Thomas Magnoli, Jr., Alternate  
Katie Symonds, Alternate  
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Kim Wolf, Historic District Coordinator

Commissioner Raymond, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Hall read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on July 31, 2025.

**Application #8371-25** Polly and Eddie Choi, seeking to replace aluminum siding with Mastic Ovation double 5" vinyl siding in Victorian Grey color at 123 Church Street. (Last day to act: August 12, 2025)

Paul Davis Restoration, 41 Andover Drive, West Hartford, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace the aluminum siding with Mastic Ovation double 5" vinyl siding in Victorian Grey color. Commissioner Hall asked if they had a second choice for a material. There is damage to the existing siding and they can't find that siding any longer. The awnings over the windows will stay as is. **UPDATE 7/22/25** – Billy Choi, 123 Church Street, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace the siding but the original application was for 5" vinyl siding in a Victorian Grey color. They are trying to repair the front right corner that was damaged in a vehicle accident. The aluminum siding can't be replicated as it isn't available any longer, but you can get 8" aluminum siding. They can paint it. When they are ready to do the front steps, they can come back and submit a new application. All four sides will have the siding replaced. There are two awnings that they would like to have removed. If the stairs will be replaced like for like, they don't have to come back for an application, but they will have to check with the Building Department to make sure they meet Code. **UPDATE 8/12/25** – Applicant was not present.

**Application #8375-25** Leigh and Betty Standish, seeking to remove back porch entrance and rebuild a 104"x126" enclosed mudroom with a metal roof, a screen door, and two Andersen windows at 278 Hartford Avenue. (Last day to act: August 12, 2025)

Betty Standish, 278 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. They would like to make the back deck into a mudroom. A drawing was submitted. It will be slightly larger than the existing footprint. It will extend a few inches past the end of the house. They will use Marvin windows that were approved for the house. They are double-hung and 2/2. They have aluminum on the outside and wood on the inside. The pitch of the roof will match what is there. It will be a standing seam metal roof. A photo was provided. The roof will be a dark grey color. The existing roof is tin and they tarred over the tin. The windows will have full screens. The exterior will be cedar siding. **UPDATE 7/22/25** – Applicant was not present. **UPDATE 8/12/25** - Betty Standish, 278 Hartford Avenue,

appeared before the Commission. A new drawing was submitted. The color would be matte black. It is now a square mudroom. She feels strongly about the metal roof and it is her preference. The siding will be cedar and there will be wood lattice around the base.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8379-25** Town of Wethersfield – Parks & Rec, seeking to install an 8"x10" metal plaque and post at the T-ball field on the Broad Street Green.

Kim Wolf, 505 Silas Deane Highway, appeared before the Commission. On the Broad Street Green at the T-ball field, they have installed a plaque. The location was called out in the meeting. It is a metal plaque. It is a black cast metal aluminum.

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

Doug Ovian, 56 Broad Street, made comments about and spoke in favor of the application.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8380-25** Kevin Bukowski, seeking to install a 14'x24' garage with 5" vinyl siding in Autumn Red color, Harvey Majesty aluminum clad windows, Clopay Gallery steel garage door in white at 65 Northbrick Lane.

Kevin Bukowski, 65 Northbrick Lane, appeared before the Commission. They would like to add a shed garage to the left hand side of the house. A rendering was provided. Commissioner Raymond voiced a concern about the massing. He would like to emulate the neighbor's shed and he will put it next to the neighbor's shed. It will have the same specs as the house. The gable will be smaller than the neighbor's peak which is about 14'. Theirs will be around 12'. The tree will remain. It might need to be trimmed. It will be 6' from the side yard and 6' from the back fence. They did their windows a few years ago and they are still available so they will use the same window in the shed. A photo of the door was provided. The door is smooth with panels in it. The glass pattern will be 4/4. There will be no lighting at this time. The rail is a Radiance rail. The post sleeves and the top rail and bottom rail will be white. Commissioner Hall asked if they would do a wood rail. No, she doesn't want a wood rail.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8381-25** Gove Restoration LLC, seeking to rebuild back landing using Azek Harvest Collection decking in Brownstone color and Azek Radiance railing in white, install composite lattice to match existing style at 62 Main Street.

Matt Gove, 70 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. A few years ago, they rebuilt the back landing using pressure-treated material and it's rotted. They would like to rebuild it in the same layout and size using a Timbertech product for the decking in Brownstone color. A sample of the railing was provided. The railing will be white. The rim will be trimmed with Azek. The lattice will be rebuilt to match what is there. The rim trim, the lattice and the risers will be painted in her trim color.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8382-25** James Campbell, seeking to convert existing carriage house in rear yard into an apartment, using three (3) Pella aluminum clad windows and cedar shake siding on the side of building at 305 Hartford Avenue.

James Campbell, 305 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. They are working on the carriage house which was originally used as servant's quarters. They would like to turn it into an apartment area. They will use three Pella aluminum clad windows. It will have cedar shake siding. He will use the same roofing material. The bumpout off of the back will be lower than the peak. Commissioner Hall asked which of the doors and windows are original versus restored. All of the windows are the original windows from when they purchased it. They will put new windows and make them square again. It will be a 30'x30' bumpout. The windows will be white clad outside and wood inside and will match existing. They are not interested in using wood windows or restoring the existing windows. They have to put in an egress door and move the stairs back.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8383-25** Bernard Morissette, seeking to expand driveway, create a turn-around, and add additional parking at 194 Hartford Avenue.

Applicant was not present.

**Application #8384-25** Giuseppe Buonannata, seeking an amendment to Application #8043-24 to change railing material to Trex Select composite railing with square balusters in white at 15 Middletown Avenue.

Giuseppe Buonannata, 15 Middletown Avenue, appeared before the Commission. They would like to go with a solid white Trex composite railing with square balusters and a flat top rail. It will be white and not shiny. There will be no lighting. The posts are 4x4s.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8385-25** Rebecca Weaver, seeking to install a 36"x24" informational panel on a granite post at Standish Park – Laura's Garden.

Rebecca Weaver, 20 Carriage Hill Drive, appeared before the Commission. A rendering was provided. They would like to install a granite post that is from the same manufacturer of the Heritage box. It will have the same dimensions – 36"x24". It will be full color.

Commissioner Raymond 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 #8386-25** TJ Magnoli, seeking to replace a wood front door with 6-lite fiberglass door at 175 Garden Street.

TJ Magnoli, 175 Garden Street, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace the front door because the current door is rotted on the bottom. The door will be ¾ light on the sidelights and the main door. The current sidelights are only 10" which is difficult to find a replacement to fit within the frame of the door. He sent in the specs on the proposed door. It's SDL and the color will match. The opening will be the same size. The existing door is wood but he's not sure if it's original to the house. Commissioner Hall asked if there was consideration for a wood alternative. No, price was the bigger issue. The shutters will not be removed.

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

Doug Ovian, 56 Broad Street, made comments about the application.

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

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8371-25** Polly and Eddie Choi, seeking to replace aluminum siding with Mastic Ovation double 5" vinyl siding in Victorian Grey color at 123 Church Street. (Last day to act: August 12, 2025)

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Wands stated that if they replace their existing aluminum siding with aluminum of same nature, and if they replace their existing stairs with like material and like design, they do not need further approvals from the HDC. However, if they want to do anything else, they will need to seek approval and they cannot replace siding with 5" vinyl siding.

Commissioner Cutkomp stated that they didn't want to work with us at all.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8375-25** Leigh and Betty Standish, seeking to remove back porch entrance and rebuild a 104"x126" enclosed mudroom with a metal roof, a screen door, and two Andersen windows at 278 Hartford Avenue. (Last day to act: August 12, 2025)

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Cutkomp stated that his concern is that the race in the roof is going to stand out. It's a small metal roof. He can live with it but he thinks it's going to stand out.

Commissioner Wands stated that there are already so many bumpouts on this house, he doesn't think anyone would be offended by another bumpout.

Commissioner Raymond stated that for him, because of the significance of this property itself, the uniqueness, he was really concerned with the metal roof, but there is already tin there and it is somewhat replacing like for like but it is clearly visible. He doesn't have a problem with the rest of the project and they are using appropriate materials. It's a well executed application and he's looking forward to seeing it.

Commissioner Lyons stated that he thinks it has a minimal impact on the District. He does like the metal seam roof on porches/mudrooms/sunrooms. It is appropriate for the location.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Cutkomp, Wands

Nay: Hall

**Application #8379-25** Town of Wethersfield – Parks & Rec, seeking to install an 8"x10" metal plaque and post at the T-ball field on the Broad Street Green.

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Raymond stated that after seeing a picture – he had not seen the sign up – he thinks it's a completely appropriate sign for where it is and the materials that have been used. He wishes that Parks & Rec had presented it to them prior.

Commissioner Wands stated that he agrees with Commissioner Raymond. They all like the sign but if they didn't like the sign, they would be having a different conversation.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8380-25** Kevin Bukowski, seeking to install a 14'x24' garage with 5" vinyl siding in Autumn Red color, Harvey Majesty aluminum clad windows, Clopay Gallery steel garage door in white at 65 Northbrick Lane.

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

1. Green space shall be maintained in front of the garage/shed, no driveways/paths approved at this time.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Raymond stated that his initial thoughts with this application was the massing on the property and the size looking at the garage and property next door, it's clearly appropriate for these size buildings. It seems like he's actually going to use it as a shed as opposed to a garage.

Commissioner Cutkomp stated that It's far enough off the road, that it's not a big impact. He thinks it will be okay because he's not putting a driveway in.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8381-25** Gove Restoration LLC, seeking to rebuild back landing using Azek Harvest Collection decking in Brownstone color and Azek Radiance railing in white, install composite lattice to match existing style at 62 Main Street.

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Raymond stated that he likes that they are matching the existing lattice.

Commissioner Lyons stated that this has minimal impact on the District. He's not a big fan of the unique railing but you aren't really going to be able to see it.

Commissioner Wands stated that he thinks replacing as presented makes sense. The current stairs are a safety concern and this proposal will eliminate the need for the homeowner to come back in seven years again for rotting stairs.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8382-25** James Campbell, seeking to convert existing carriage house in rear yard into an apartment, using three (3) Pella aluminum clad windows and cedar shake siding on the side of building at 305 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Cutkomp seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the application.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Raymond stated that they can ask for site visits. Looking at it in its initial stages, he thinks it's minimal impact to the District. Knowing what the homeowner has done to the original part of the property and restoring that barn has been fantastic. They take care of that property very well.

Commissioner Wands stated that he would like to see what he's looking at here.

Commissioner Hall stated that he wants to see the solution to keeping it looking as original as possible cause it is hard to keep barns and carriage houses keeping their original appropriate characteristics and details and the overall impact that has on the District. You have to not include the trees. It's not just street view – it's public view.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8383-25** Bernard Morissette, seeking to expand driveway, create a turn-around, and add additional parking at 194 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wands seconded by Commissioner Raymonde and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the application.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Raymond stated that the applicant wasn't here today. There is quite a bit of blacktop there now. There was already a space for a turnaround there, so he doesn't know that they needed all that they did. He would like them to come up with some sort of solution to what they are looking at here. It's not the last week to act.

Commissioner Hall stated that they know what they are going to say when he is here so why not deny it now.

Commissioner Lyons stated that this is a habitual issue here. They may come in with some greenery screening options – who knows. But he would agree with Commissioner Hall other than that. He might not even come and send his attorney. They had successful resolutions with this applicant on other projects.

Commissioner Wands stated that he thinks they should give him a chance to respond before they deny.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8384-25** Giuseppe Buonannata, seeking an amendment to Application #8043-24 to change railing material to Trex Select composite railing with square balusters in white at 15 Middletown Avenue.

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

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Cutkomp stated that he thinks that what he wants to change is minimal. He thinks this is a vast improvement over what he wanted originally.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8385-25** Rebecca Weaver, seeking to install a 36"x24" informational panel on a granite post at Standish Park – Laura's Garden.

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

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Wands stated that he's impressed that they are using the same manufacturer to be on par with the rest of the historical signage that the Town has put up in the last 15 years as far as materials, etc.

Commissioner Raymond stated that he thinks it's completely appropriate and he loves the sign and the garden and he thinks it's great to have in Wethersfield. He wishes they had more.

Commissioner Hall stated that he thinks it's good as it is standing on its own.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

**Application #8386-25** TJ Magnoli, seeking to replace a wood front door with 6-lite fiberglass door at 175 Garden Street.

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

1. The door light pattern to match existing.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Raymond stated that it is a dynamic change to the front door.

Commissioner Hall stated that he would try to match the pattern of the main door first. It's trending with what they are seeing on the shop doors on Main Street. They have a history and a precedence of matching what's there. The hardware should be more appropriate as well.

Commissioner Cutkomp stated that he thinks it's very modern, especially since he's taking the storm door off.

Commissioner Wands stated that he understands that the door is modern but he doesn't find that door historically significant to the District.

Commissioner Lyons stated that he would rather table it.

Aye: Hall

Nay: Raymond, Lyons, Cutkomp, Wands

Upon motion by Commissioner Cutkomp seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the application.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp

Nay: Wands

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **MINUTES OF JULY 8 AND JULY 22, 2025**

The meeting minutes of July 8, 2025 are tabled until the next meeting.

Upon motion by Commissioner Lyons seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the meeting minutes of July 22, 2025, as submitted.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Wands, Cutkomp

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

Letter from Sally Katz (read into meeting last time) Kim spoke with Sally Katz and Sally is still interested in pursuing this application. The steel structure is not salvageable. Kim asked if they could have a site visit and Sally encouraged it.

Doug Ovian, 56 Broad Street, appeared before the Commission and made comments about the proposed bike path.

#### **Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

None.

#### **Correspondence**

Letter from Jim and Kris Tracy, 241 Broad Street, was read into the record.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Cutkomp, seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Aye: Raymond, Lyons, Hall, Cutkomp, Wands

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Chris Hall  
- Clerk -