

MINUTES  
TOWN OF GROTON  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
FEBRUARY 21, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.  
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: Mitchell, Sarasin, Nado, Cole, Vaughn (7:05)  
Staff: Quinn, Galetta

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 12-02 – 61 West Main Street; Chelsea Groton Bank, owner; Advanced Improvements LLC, applicant; Signage. PIN #261918305771

Alton from Advanced Improvements, LLC, presented to the Commission to propose the installation of two signs at 61 West Main Street, which is owned by Chelsea Groton Bank. One sign will be located on the side of the building and the other on the front of the building. Staff noted that the maximum size for the sign on the side of the building is 21 sq. ft. and the maximum size for the front sign is 12 sq. ft. The proposed signs are 4' x 5' for the side and 2' x 3' for the front. The Commission had some concerns about the proportion on the plan being presented. The front sign will be hanging from a bracket attached to one of the columns on the porch.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Bracket design

Chairman Nado asked for comments in favor or against and there were none.  
The public hearing closed at 7:13 p.m.

HDC 12-03 – 3 Water Street; Bank Square Realty Ltd, owner; Amy Rubin, applicant; Signage. PIN #261918308790

The applicant was not present for the public hearing.

Chairman Nado closed the public hearing portion of the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 12-02 – 61 West Main Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by Cole, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1831.

HDC 12-03 – 3 Water Street

MOTION: To continue the hearing to the next regularly scheduled public hearing.

Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by Sarasin, so voted unanimously.

### III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Camille Johnson, who is the owner of 8 Elm Street, presented to the Commission to propose removing a small porch on the third floor of her home. Additionally, she would like to remove an existing door and replace it with a Marvin window. She does not believe that the porch is original to the house which was built in 1879. A former owner of the house stated to her that in the 1950's the house was a nursing home. The belief is that the porch was added to provide egress for the nursing home. The porch can only be seen from Library Street. Currently it is rotting as well as leaking during inclement weather. The Commission felt that removing a deck from a Victorian style home would be an appropriate modification. The open deck on the second floor will remain. The Commission felt the applicant was moving in the direction to make the home more appropriate to the era in which it was built.

### IV. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – None

### V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF February 7, 2012

MOTION: To approve the minutes of February 7, 2012

Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

### VI. OLD BUSINESS – None

### VII. NEW BUSINESS

Staff stated that six individuals have applied for the vacant positions on the Commission. He has discussed how to tutor the new appointees with Mike Murphy, Director of OPDS. Ideas include having the Commission meet with a representative from the State and the Connecticut Trust, along with the Town Attorney, to discuss historic preservation and the way in which the Commission ought to conduct meetings. Topics may include when to recuse oneself, guidelines from the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of State, CLG Certification requirements, etc. The Director has contacted the State for clarification of CLG requirements.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. made by Mitchell, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

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Elaine Cole, Secretary  
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II