

MINUTES
TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
AUGUST 5, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: Moriarty, Kimenker, Somers, Everett
Alternates Present: Brewer
Absent: Levenson, Brady
Staff: Quinn, Galetta

Chairperson Moriarty called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and sat Brewer for Brady.

MOTION: To waive the reading of the hearing procedure.

Motion made by Kimenker seconded by Somers, so voted unanimously.

Moriarty read the call of the hearing.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 14-29 – 10 Water Street; The Mystic Group At Mystic, LLC, owner; Jessica Watrous, applicant; Signage. PIN #261918306539 – Continued

Jessica Watrous presented to the Commission regarding signage for her new store located at 10 Water Street. The sign will hang vertically from an existing sign post. It will be made of wood with gold leaf lettering. The Commission noted that the applicant did not submit enough details to document the permanent file and recommended a continuation.

HDC 14-30 – 105 River Road; Leah Hartman, owner; William Bertsche, applicant; Covered porch. PIN #261914431612

William Bertsche of Mercer and Bertsche, presented to the Commission for Leah Hartman owner of 105 River Road. This proposal is for a covered porch addition on the rear of the house that will be seen from the Starr Street. The materials are the same as those on the rest of the structure and the approved addition. The Commission asked for details regarding the window, door and granite steps.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Plot plan
- Site plan and elevation drawings

Chairperson Moriarty asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

HDC 14-31 – 2 Water Street; Chelsea Groton Bank, owner; Burke Enterprise, LLC, applicant; Signage. PIN #261918306772

Robert Burke of Burke Enterprise presented to the Commission for Chelsea Groton Bank owner of 2 Water Street. The proposal is to upgrade and replace the signage on the property

because the bank is launching a new logo using a smaller, less detailed acorn. The parking and pedestrian directional signs will be upgraded and the posts will be replaced. The remainder signs will be repainted purple throughout the building and grounds.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Logo detail
- Pedestrian and parking sign

Chairperson Moriarty asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:19 p.m.

HDC 14-32 – 9 Park Place; Brian Ferguson, owner/applicant; Replace windows. PIN #261914425657

Brian Ferguson presented to the Commission to propose replacing 25 windows in his house at 9 Park Place. 23 windows will be replaced with no change in panels, size or color using Renewal by Andersen, which are made from a composite material. The applicant would also like to expand a living room window and a kitchen window on the water side of Park Place. The living room window would be the same height but doubled in width to match the other windows. An existing solid, plate glass, picture window in the kitchen is proposed to be doubled in width.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Window cut sheet

Chairperson Moriarty asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:28 p.m.

HDC 14-33 – 29 West Mystic Avenue; Laurel Holmes, owner/applicant; Addition. PIN #261805283528

Laurel Holmes, owner of 29 West Mystic Avenue, presented to the Commission to propose a family room addition that will encompass a mudroom extension. The addition will be located on the north side of the house at the end of the driveway. It will extend out to the back of the structure. The addition will be two stories in height and mirror the roofline of the porch. Front decorative shingles will be repeated on the addition. Lattice work detail on the front of the house will also be repeated on the addition. Window materials, shingles and trim will match the existing structure.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Architectural drawings

Chairperson Moriarty asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:41 p.m.

HDC 14-34 – 40 Library Street; Mystic-Noank Library, owner; Todd Brady, applicant; Exterior stairs. PIN #261918208890 E

Todd Brady, who serves as a Trustee of the Mystic-Noank Library at 40 Library Street, presented to the Commission to propose the addition of a steel stair tower on the north side of the library. A fire safety inspection found a non-compliant historic stair in the old part of the building which the State of Connecticut is requiring them to remedy. The historic stair will remain but will not be used as an egress. The new stair tower will provide the egress required. The addition will include modifying an existing window opening into a door opening to access the exterior stair.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Site survey

Chairperson Moriarty asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:52 p.m.

The public hearing portion of the meeting was closed at 7:59 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 14-29 – 10 Water Street

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

Motion made by Somers seconded by Kimenker, so voted unanimously.

HDC 14-30 – 105 River Road

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Kimenker seconded by Everett, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1947

HDC 14-31 – 2 Water Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Everett seconded by Kimenker, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1948

HDC 14-32 – 9 Park Place

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Kimenker seconded by Brewer, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1949

HDC 14-33 – 29 West Mystic Avenue

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Brewer seconded by Kimenker, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1950

HDC 14-34 – 40 Library Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Everett seconded by Kimenker, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1951

III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Chris Vernott, of Mercer & Bertsche Architects, appeared before the Commission on behalf of Leah Hartman who is the owner of 105 River Road. The applicant is proposing to modify the front stairs by having a porch come out of the front on brick piers with stairs exiting to the side. The underside of the porch would be left open. The plan is to differentiate the porch from the deck with the use of a built-up newel post that will make it stand out.

Crosby Sherman, owner of 324 High Street, appeared before the Commission to propose replacing the existing siding on his home with HardiePlank siding. The trim will be replaced like for like, as needed.

Brian Ferguson owner of 9 Park Place appeared before the Commission to propose the addition of a fence along the back property line which will be seen from a public way. The applicant would also like to add solar panels to the roof of his garage.

Robert Burke of Burke Enterprise appeared before the Commission regarding the replacement of an existing commercial directory on the rear of the building at 2 Water Street, owned by Chelsea Groton Bank.

Jessica Watrous appeared before the Commission to discuss the installation of signage on her store at 10 Water Street, which is owned by The Mystic Group At Mystic, LLC. The Commission stressed the need for enough details to document the file and allow them to make a decision.

IV. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – None

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF July 15, 2014

MOTION: To approve the minutes of July 15, 2014.

Motion made by Kimenker, seconded by Somers, 2 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions (Moriarty, Brewer, Everett)

VI. OLD BUSINESS – None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson Moriarty noted that she believes work has been done to the exterior of 231-233 High Street that has not received approval from the Commission. Staff will follow up.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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Motion to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. made by Moriarty, seconded by Kimenker, so voted unanimously.

Todd Brady, Secretary
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II