

MINUTES
TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
JANUARY 20, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: Nado, Mitchell, Cole, Vaughn
Alternates Present: None
Staff: Quinn, Galetta

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Cole read the Call of the Hearing.

Vaughn arrived at 7:10 p.m.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 08-57 – 3 Thomas Street; Alexandros Makriyannis and Carolyn Clayton, owners; Peter Springsteel, applicant; Exterior renovations. PIN #261805189780

Applicant submitted a written request to withdraw the application.

HDC 08-58 – 17 Pearl Street; Anthony and Susan Dinoto, owners; David Smith, applicant; Replacement windows. PIN #261918319517

David Smith and Ken Byrd presented to the Commission for Anthony and Susan Dinoto, owners of 17 Pearl Street. They are proposing the replacement of windows on the second and third floor of the Dinoto Funeral Home. The applicants replaced a window in the rear of the building which is not visible from the Historic District. This allowed them to take a photograph for the Commission to review. They also presented several different types of replacement windows for the Commission to examine. Muntins in the replacement windows are between the glass. Six or seven windows have already been replaced in the structure as part of a previous renovation. The Commission felt very strongly that windows, original to the structure, should be restored rather than replaced.

HDC 09-01 – 168 High Street; Charles Perini, owner/applicant; Install propane tanks. PIN #261918313365

Charles Perini, owner of 168 High Street, presented to the Commission. He is requesting permission to temporarily install propane tanks on the rear of the property. Ultimately he plans to install an underground tank. The Commission requested an approximate timeframe for the tanks to be above ground. The applicant feels they will be there for approximately six months.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Drawings
- Plot Plan

HDC 09-02 – 15 New London Road; Lisa M. Rawding, owner; Dominic Zeppieri, applicant; Addition & renovations. PIN #261918208151

Dominic Zeppieri, of Zeppieri Home Improvements, presented to the Commission for Lisa Rawding owner of 15 New London Road. A shed kitchen addition was put on the house in 1982. The owner would like to extend the back gable of the house to add a second floor over the kitchen. A window will be added to the second floor. The first floor is a distant view from the Historic District but the second floor elevation is a concern for the commission with regard to the windows. The plan is to match the back façade. The remainder of the aluminum siding will be removed and replaced with cedar clapboard to match the front of the house. The roof will be stripped and resingled using black walnut colored shingles.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Drawings
- Brochures

Chairman Nado closed the public hearings at 8:19 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 08-57 – 3 Thomas Street

Application withdrawn – no action required.

HDC 08-58 – 17 Pearl Street

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

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

HDC 09-01 – 168 High Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1683

HDC 09-02– 15 New London Road

Commission stipulated that the approval does not include windows or trim.

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness with stipulations.

Motion made by Vaughn, seconded by Mitchell, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1684

III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Vince and Kate Yevoli owners of 8 Orchard Lane presented to the Commission. They are proposing the replacement of the existing front door with period double doors. The transom light will be removed from the top of the doorway.

Peter Springsteel presented to the Commission along with Nancy Field owner of 10 Bank Street. They propose removing an existing awning and putting an addition on the rear of the existing dwelling. Lattice will partially enclose the walls of the addition. The structure currently has vinyl siding on the house and they would like to use vinyl on the addition. If the Commission is not in favor of this proposal they would alternatively use hardy plank siding. Windows for the addition were discussed.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE – None

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF January 6, 2009

MOTION: To approve the minutes of January 6, 2009

Motion made by Cole, seconded by Vaughn, (3 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention). Motion passed.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Staff reported that the Town Attorney was contacted by the attorney for Rod Desmarais to try to come to some compromise on the issues with the project at 81 High Street. The Commission felt strongly that the roof pitch must go back to what was approved on the COA but they may consider some compromises on the other issues.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Wil Langdon presented to the Commission regarding an application by the owners of 15 Gravel Street for a dock in front of their property. His position is that the Town of Groton taxes docks as structures and therefore this application should come to the attention of the Commission as a proposed structure. Staff stated that the Town previously received an opinion from the Town Attorney saying that docks are not under the purview of the Town. Mr. Langdon is concerned about the symmetry of the present as well as future docks on Gravel Street. He is also concerned that the dock placement will limit the ability to navigate a small sail boat in that part of the Mystic River. The proposed dock is currently under the public comment period by the State DEP. Mr. Langdon would like to have the dock moved to another location and he is looking for Historic District Commission support on the matter. The Commission is in favor of writing a letter in support of his proposal to move the dock.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. made by Cole, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

Elaine Cole, Secretary
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II