

MINUTES
TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
JUNE 3, 2008- 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: N. Mitchell, C. Nado, R. Seager, E. Cole
Alternates Present: None
Staff: P. Vandenbosch, L. Galetta

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

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 08-17 – 61 West Main Street; Chelsea Groton Savings Bank, owner; Bill McNeil, applicant; Restore existing building and add front porch. PIN #261918305771

Bill McNeil presented to the Commission for Chelsea Groton Savings Bank. He discussed restoration plans for the Federal style building. Examples of windows and architecture that will be restored were presented. Door will be painted rather than stained. The Commission felt this would be appropriate for the period. Flat pilasters will be kept on front of building. Commission would like to see them put on the back of the building as well. Reason for lower-level window reduction in size was explained. They are also proposing to reinstall an original fan window.

Cedar shingle samples to be used for siding were presented. The shingles will be attached individually. Window samples from Pella and Eagle were shown to the Commission. Windows will be true divided light with muntions permanently applied to exterior glass. Commission preferred the Pella windows – Architectural Series – for this restoration. Examples of the copper gutters that will be strap hung from the roof were shown to the Commission.

The Commission noted that final details were missing from the drawings submitted. They suggested that the contractor work with an architect to have plans with final specs drawn up.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 2 drawings
- 1 drawing with attached photograph
- packet of 9 photos and 1 map
- 1 brochure

HDC 08-18 – 15 New London Road; Lisa M. Rawding, owner; Chuck Canavan, applicant; New front door and remove aluminum siding. PIN #261918208151

Michael Berg presented to the Commission in place of the applicant. He discussed the plans to replace the flat paneled door with a raised 6-panel door. They also plan to replace the existing sidelights with raised panel sidelights. The Commission will vote only on the replacement of the door and sidelights.

Currently the aluminum siding runs over to the sidelights with no trim. Only the front aluminum siding will be removed in the initial phase of the project. The Commission requested drawings or photographs for the file to show what the front of the building will look

like after the aluminum siding is removed and underneath has been restored. Commission was particularly concerned with cornerboards. Additionally, trim detailing on the sidelights will need to be sketched out for the Commission.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 1 photograph
- 2 pages of door & sidelight samples

HDC 08-19 – 3 West Main Street; Johnatha Gorin, owner; Mark Block, applicant; For new awning. PIN #261918401742

Mark Block presented to the Commission for Johnatha Gorin. The proposal is to erect an awning at 3 West Main Street. The applicant is requesting to erect the awning at a higher level than the other awnings on the building. Photographs were shown of the adjacent businesses. The height of the awning will be the same but the depth will change. The Commission strongly favored an awning at the lower height in keeping with the rest of the awnings on the building.

The applicant verbally withdrew the application and will forward a withdrawal in writing to the Commission.

HDC 08-20 – 276 Packer Road; Burnetts Corners Preservation Society, owner/applicant; Replace existing roof. PIN #271013134299E

James Mitchell presented to the Commission. Samples of architectural style, 3-tab shingles and colors were presented to the Commission. The Commission cautioned against using a “wooden” color as it will appear too modern for the structure. Applicant chose an Owens-Corning Weathered Wood shingle for the project.

HDC 08-21 – 7 Water Street; Timothy Owens, owner; Christopher Owens, applicant; Replace existing roof shingles. PIN #261918307563

Christopher Owens presented to the Commission. He showed a sample Duration Premium 3-tab roof shingle to the Commission. The applicant is proposing replacing the existing roof shingles with the new Duration shingles. The color chosen by the applicant is slate stone grey.

HDC 08-22 – 15½ Water Street, Unit 2; Milos J. Janicek, owner; Ronald F. Kapraszewski, applicant; Replace existing windows, door and deck. PIN #261918307079 0002

Ronald Kapraszewski presented to the Commission. He wants to replace existing windows and a door on the first floor living unit on the south side of the building. He is proposing using Marvin windows with hurricane glass. The primary difference between what currently exists what he proposes to use is the structural sturdiness of the window and a little less glass. He will also replace an existing deck with Trex to match the other condo living units.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 4 photographs
- 2 pages of window & door samples

Chairman Nado closed the public hearings at 8:42 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 08-17 – 61 West Main Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by R. Seager, seconded by E. Cole, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1647

HDC 08-18 – 15 New London Road

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by N. Mitchell, seconded by R. Seager, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1646

HDC 08-20 – 276 Packer Road

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by R. Seager, seconded by E. Cole, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1645

HDC 08-21 – 7 Water Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by N. Mitchell, seconded by E. Cole, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1648

HDC 08-22 – 15½ Water Street, Unit 2

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by E. Cole, seconded by N. Mitchell, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1649

III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Sue Crawford owner of 26 Pearl Street presented to the Commission. She is proposing the addition of a porch on the back side of her house. She provided pictures of the existing structure from the time of her purchase up to present. She also showed a revised drawing of the project with the pergola removed.

Sue discussed the street views of her home with the Commission. The Commission discussed their feelings about the enhancement and preservation or damage to the historic district from the addition of the porch to the house. The Commission had concerns about the porch going beyond the pilaster which is a less traditional look. Sue will revise the plans and drawings to present at the public hearing.

Vince Yevoli presented to the Commission regarding property at 8 Orchard Lane, which he is about to acquire. He talked to the Commission about the proposed changes to the existing house. Eventually he would like to remove the asbestos siding. He would like to add shutters if there is room between the windows. A possible future project would be to replace the siding on the mud room and expand it out to make it larger. He would also like to replace a window with French doors for a walkout onto the patio. Plans include removing the picket fence in the rear of the house. He showed the Commission a sample Marvin four over four window that he would like to use to replace existing windows.

The Commission recommended that he come to another pre-application hearing with plans and specs, including dimensions, as well as brochures for window and door replacement.

Peter Springsteel and Cheryl Beaulieu appeared before the Commission regarding 0 Library Street. Peter showed a sketch of the proposed shingle-style, gambrel house to the Commission. The structure will be approximately 3000 sq ft including the garage. The Commission discussed the view of the property from Library Street and New London Road and the proposed structure in the context of other homes in the neighborhood. The Commission felt the proposed structure has a 'turn of the century' look to it. The Commission was concerned that such a large house will be out of sync with the street rhythm. There is less concern with the style of the house at this point and more concern with the size. They would like to see a proportional streetscape drawing of it with the other structures in the neighborhood to get a better feel for the size. A structure with a detached garage would show more sky and make the house appear somewhat smaller. Detached structures are more in keeping with the district.

Peter Springsteel presented to the Commission for Mystic Art Association at 9 Water Street. They are seeking permission to put a six foot tall fence along the water for approx. 40 - 50 ft. The Commission felt this would present a barrier to the public's enjoyment of the water view. Commission members will individually inspect the property to determine if a fence or barrier of any height might be considered.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 20, 2008, as amended

MOTION: To approve the minutes of May 20, 2008

Motion made by N. Mitchell, seconded by R. Seager, so voted unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Mystic Drawbridge colors were discussed by the Commission. The thought is to use antique steam engine colors such as dark, forest green with red trim and gold leaf lettering.

Photographic examples should be used to show the specific colors to the State.

Chuck Canavan talked to the Chairman about giving access to the Masonic Temple, both inside and outside, to the Commission. Two members only at a time may visit the site if they wish. There are some Commission members who wish to make a site visit and others who do not.

Historic District Commission

June 3, 2008

Page 5

VII. NEW BUSINESS – NONE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. made by N. Mitchell, seconded by R. Seager, so voted unanimously.

Elaine Cole, Secretary
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II