

MINUTES
TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
JULY 15, 2008- 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

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

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

I. PREAPPLICATION HEARINGS

Bob Danaher owner of 23 Gravel Street presented to the Commission. He is proposing to resurface his existing gravel driveway with blacktop. The driveway is three garage bays wide at the garage, narrowing down to 12 feet at the street. Not looking to increase the width at the street. He had several photographs of the existing driveway for the Commission to review. The Commission had some issues with blacktop in the Historic District. A suggestion was made to find a compromise between gravel and a blacktop driveway. The Commission will individually visit the property to visualize the impact of a blacktop driveway at this location.

Elizabeth Lutz and Nick Pettinati owners of 2 Fort Rachel Place appeared before the Commission to get some feedback on proposed renovations. Their home currently has asbestos siding on it. They are considering resurfacing the present siding with a vinyl product. The Commission would not be in favor of a vinyl product and felt that re-clapboarding the house would be more appropriate. The project may also be done in stages.

Mark Scantucci and Wes Yates presented to the Commission for St. Mark's Episcopal Church, owner of 15 Pearl Street. The Church is looking to replace existing casement windows in the Parish Hall with Anderson 400 Series windows. The Commission reviewed photographs of the existing windows. The new windows will be vinyl on the outside and the existing trim will be replaced with Azek trim. Azek would be acceptable as long as it is painted.

Ed Janus owner of 3 Orchard Lane presented to the Commission. He is proposing to replace an existing deck railing and remove stairs from the deck. He is also going to replace his roof. The Commission reviewed photographs of the existing deck and the roofing shingles he is proposing to use.

Chuck Canavan presented to the Commission for GRVL, LLC the owners of 7 Gravel Street. He reviewed the revisions to the proposed project with the Commission. Keeping existing front steps and recessed lighting already installed. Stucco will be used for front siding and hardy plank clapboard for the three remaining sides. The Commission discussed the break in the stucco where it meets the hardy plank and how the stucco will be applied to the building. Window placement is configured according to bedroom location on the side. Rather than adding a porch to the second floor in the front he is proposing expanding or slightly enlarging

the window widths. The Commission will need to see a more detailed drawing in order to make any decisions on the front of the structure. The Commission questioned what would happen to the Mason's Hall signage currently on the structure. Options for replacing the sign with a Historic District sign were discussed. The building will be heated with propane and the Commission questioned where it will be vented and how it will look. The Commission had no issues with the proposed seven foot privacy wall to keep the two patios separate.

II. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF July 1, 2008

MOTION: To approve the minutes of July 1, 2008

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

IV. OLD BUSINESS - NONE

V. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission advised Staff that the project at 5 Grove Avenue is not proceeding according to the plans/drawings presented at the public hearing. Staff will have the inspector assigned to the project investigate this.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. made by R. Seager, seconded by N. Mitchell, so voted unanimously.

Elaine Cole, Secretary
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II