

MINUTES
TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MAY 15, 2007 - 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: C. Nado, R. Seager, K. Vaughn and E. Cole
Alternates Present: N. Mitchell and D. Madden
Staff: K. Quinn, S. Discordia

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

Chairman Nado appointed Mitchell and Madden as voting members.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Cole read the call as it appeared in The Day.

HDC 07-20 – 31 Water Street; Hatfield Legal Group, owner; Tom Hatfield, applicant; install new sign. PIN 261918306046

Tom Hatfield presented to the Commission. He showed the Commission a proposed new sign directly below the current sign. The sign will be placed about 8 inches below the current sign and will be the same width at 36 inches.

The Commission thought the sign would be appropriate.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 4 pictures
- 1 drawing

HDC 07-21 – 7 Water Street; Tim Owens, owner; Christopher Owens, applicant; 3 new signs. PIN 261918307563

Jane Sawyer represented Christopher Owens. Ms. Sawyer stated there will be only two new signs. She distributed pictures of the proposed signs to the Commission.

The Commission thought the two signs were appropriate.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 3 pictures
- 2 drawings

- 1 materials sheet

HDC 07-22 – 39 Pearl Street; Christian Oates, owner; Thomas Collier, Esq., applicant; replace roof and chimney, remove siding on 1st and 2nd floor. PIN 261918420460

Attorney Thomas Collier, representing the owner, presented to the Commission. He showed pictures of the house prior to renovations and also after renovating. He stated the striping of siding will reveal the original siding. The chimney was replaced but it is not exactly like the original chimney. Attorney Collier showed a picture after the roof, chimney and siding after it was stripped. The Commission stated they would like to see pictures of the whole roof as the color of the shingles has changed.

The Commission suggested taking the roofing aspect off of the application.

The Commission recessed the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Chairman Nado brought the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

Attorney Collier stated he would like to amend the application and delete “work scope 2... replace asphalt shingled roof...”. Chairman Nado asked him to cross it out on the application, initial and date it.

The Commission was in favor of removal of the asphalt shingles and revealing the original cedar clapboard.

The Commission did not think the slight change in the new chimney was a detriment to the historic nature of the house.

The Commission requested the applicant submit a second application addressing the new roof and skylights.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 8 pictures

The public hearings were closed at 8:09 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 07-20 – 31 Water Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

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

HDC 07-21– 7 Water Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

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

HDC 07-22 – 39 Pearl Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness with the stipulation that the applicant specifically remove from the application, “the removal of the roofing shingles”.

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

III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Chuck Canavan represented the owners of 19 Gravel Street. The owners would like to put a railing above the existing enclosed porch in keeping with other Captain’s homes in town. Mr. Canavan stated they would like to change the window to a French door that would open out. The opening would be the same size as when it was a double hung window.

The Commission stated they needed to see what the details would look like including the detail of the proposed railing. The Commission thought it might be too much detail for this specific house.

Carol Silva of 27 West Mystic Avenue would like to replace the windows in her home. She submitted sample pictures of the windows. She would like to trim the windows with aluminum siding.

The Commission stated they did not like the aluminum trim around the windows but did not see a problem with the replacement windows.

Mary Ann Agostini represented the owners, Coldwell Banker Realty, of 3 Water Street. They are proposing awnings on the two picture windows. It will be a darker blue. These awnings will be permanent and will be lettered with “Coldwell Banker”.

The Commission did not have a problem with the awnings.

Chad Frost, of Kent & Frost Landscape Architects owners of 1 High Street, presented to the Commission. The Architects who own the building would like to put up a sign on an existing 30” bracket. Mr. Frost stated they would like to delineate 3 gravel parking spaces as well.

The Commission felt the plan needed to be less commercial and suggested the applicant keep it as close to its natural historic condition as possible. The Commission was concerned in loosing

the natural historic look of this property as it once was the local blacksmith's shop and is a stop on the downtown historic tours.

Samantha Farenden, owner of 6 West Mystic Avenue, stated she had just purchased the house and it doesn't seem to have any gutters or downspouts.

The Commission and Ms. Farenden discussed alternatives and ways to repair the gutters that may be hiding behind the soffets.

Peter Springsteel represented the owners of 9 Orchard Lane. The owners would like to remove the existing deck and replace with a new larger deck with a room underneath. The deck and room are 12 feet deep.

The Commission thought it would be appropriate.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Staff distributed historic magazines.

V. MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of May 1, 2007.

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

VI. OLD BUSINESS - None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Legal Ads – Notice of Decision

Staff stated that Notice of Decision legal ads will no longer be published by the Town in The Day newspaper.

2. Agendas & Minutes/Email

Staff asked the Commission if they would prefer their Agendas and Minutes emailed. Vaughn stated she would like her packet emailed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:55 p.m. made by Seager, seconded by Mitchell, so voted unanimously.

Elaine Cole, Secretary
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Sheila Discordia, Office Assistant II