

**TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 6, 2005 - 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2**

Members Present: C. Nado, E. Cole, R. Seager
Members Absent: K. Vaughn, R. Keyes
Alternates Present: D. Madden, R. Boardman
Staff: K. Quinn, S. Discordia

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

No public hearings.

DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

No items to discuss.

PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Paul Trowbridge, represented the owners for 9 Rathbun Place. Mr. Trowbridge showed pictures and diagrams of how he would like to increase the size of his deck. There are two decks one above the other. They would like to bring both of the decks further out. Seager stated that the railings and ballasters should be simplistic to match the house. Seager stated that one deck above the other gives the impression of a two-family. Seager suggested moving the railing on the top deck in to give the impression of two different size decks. The Commission discussed different styles of railings that would be appropriate.

Jonathan Rodgers the owner of 80 Clift Street, would like to replace the current garage door with something more up-to-date and in a carriage style. Seager stated that the ornate Victorian style windows in the proposed garage doors would not work with the simplistic style of the Cape. The Commission suggested putting simple square windows in the replacement garage doors.

Rod Desmaris, represented the owners of the Tift building at 36 West Main Street. He would like to re-side one side of the building with vinyl siding as it is only 3 feet wide between the buildings and it gets very little sun. The clapboards rot out fast, as it is very damp and closed off between the buildings. Cole stated that vinyl holds in moisture as well. Mr. Desmaris stated they have it pretty well insulated with Tyvek. Chairman Nado asked if the trim would be wood and Mr. Desmaris stated it was a material of redwood dust and epoxy and it held up really well to moisture. Seager stated that putting vinyl on the outside of this building is like putting elastic on the building. The Tyvek and Styrofoam will only collect moisture and he feared the building would deteriorate from the moisture being sealed in the building. Seager stated ventilated fiber cement would work because it would allow ventilation. The Commission felt that another material should be used other than vinyl as to let the moisture escape from the building instead of containing it and potentially destroying the framing.

Lance and Lloyd Curley of Classic Colonial Homes represented the owner of a lot at Fort Rachel Place. The home would be between Water Street and Fort Rachel Place. They showed the Commission pictures of variously designed colonial homes and showed where they would place the home on the lot. Seager stated that historically there would have been a very modest home as this was a working class neighborhood, and not a home as elaborate as they were proposing. Seager and Chairman Nado believed that a home should not be placed on the pinnacle and wipe out the rock, but they were not opposed to building a smaller cape style home elsewhere on the lot.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from Bill Bertsche, architect, was received by the Commission members regarding the Bolander-Allyn Building at 18-22 West Main Street.

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of August 16, 2005

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

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Seager stated that 147 Noank Road, there is a fence up that he doesn't believe there is an application for. Staff stated they would investigate.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Cole, Secretary