

**TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MAY 2, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2**

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

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Cole read the Call of the Hearing as it appeared in The Day.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 06-23 – 9 Grove Avenue; Chris Greib, owner; Chuck Canavan, applicant; new dormer. PIN 261914420839

Chuck Canavan presented to the Commission. He stated they would like to make one of the previously approved windows shorter as to install a kitchen counter under it. He also would like to install a dormer on the back of the house. Mr. Canavan handed out pictures of the home. It was determined by the Commission that the new dormer would be visible from the sides of the house. The proposed windows will be Marvin with simulated divided lights. Seager stated that the new design is much better than the previously approved application. The Commission stated that they would stipulate the retraction of the first approved plan upon approval of the new proposed plan.

Seager stated that the new design is substantially better than the previously approved design. The rest of the Commission agreed that the proposed changes are fine.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 1 material sheet
- 1 drawing
- 5 pictures
- 1 site plan

HDC 06-24 – 42 Clift Street; Kristin Vaughn, owner/applicant; mudroom addition and addition off kitchen. PIN 261918329126

Ms. Vaughn asked for a continuance of the public hearing.

The public hearing was closed at 7:26 p.m.

DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 06-23 – 9 Grove Avenue

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness with the stipulation that Certificate of Appropriateness #1404 will be voided.

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

HDC 06-24 – 42 Clift Street

MOTION: To continue the public hearing until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

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

PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Frank Barravecchia of 1 Pearl Street presented to the Commission. He stated he has replaced the outside Bilco door with a custom made mahogany door. He also installed wrought iron railings and replaced the brick. Chairman Nado stated that the new brick doesn't resemble the old and looks very new. Seager stated the home looks like the basement is another unit.

Seager stated that the appearance of the entrance to the basement looks very formal and he would like the iron railing removed. He felt the railing is out of sync with the rest of the house. The Commission discussed with Mr. Barravecchia the safety concerns after removing the railings. The Commission stated that the applicant should devise some sort of safety railing for this entrance into the basement, but it should be very plain in keeping with the house and district.

Vaughn stated that she thought that a picket fence might work and he could leave the stone work. The Commission stated that there was originally a wooden bulkhead over the entrance to the basement. Cole stated she would prefer to see the wooden bulkhead that was originally there. The Commission suggested he come back for another preliminary.

Natalie Mully of 2 Starr Street would like to hide the propane tanks on her property with a fence. The Commission suggested Ms. Mully call the gas company and discuss safety issues regarding fencing around the tank.

Penny Harvard, 85 Clift Street would like to install a wooden arbor between her new picket fence and the garage. She showed a picture to the Commission. The Commission did not see a problem with it.

Bryan Kent, landscape architect in Mystic represented the owners of 56 Pearl Street. They have a crushed stone driveway and they would like to replace it with concrete pavers. Some of the pavers are larger than others and it's a randomized pattern. Chairman Nado and Seager were concerned with a 19 foot driveway of concrete material. They stated it may be to elaborate for this home. Mr. Kent stated he could use pavers as driveway tracks or pavers as borders of the driveway with gravel.

Boardman suggested using a procedure referred to as “oil stone”. It is a process of layers of oil and sand with gravel rolled into the top layer. Boardman stated that it looks like an original gravel driveway with very little movement of gravel.

Donzel Johnson of 43-47 West Main Street stated he would like to change the sign for his business. Mr. Johnson stated the sign would be the same size as the previous. The Commission stated the sign looks appropriate.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Nado stated he received correspondence from alternate Boardman stating he was resigning from the Commission as he is moving out of state. His last meeting will be May 16, 2006.

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 18, 2006

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

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. made by Seager, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Cole, Secretary