

**TOWN OF GROTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
JULY 18, 2006 - 7:00 P.M.
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2**

Members Present: E. Cole, R. Seager, C. Nado, R. Keyes (7:10 p.m.)
Alternates Present: D. Madden
Staff: K. Quinn, S. Discordia

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Cole read the Call of the Hearing as it appeared in The Day.

Chairman Nado appointed Madden as a voting member.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 06-34 – 83 Library Street; William Thorndike, owner/applicant; convert garage to living space. PIN 261917204559

Mr. Thorndike presented approved construction drawings to the Commission and explained that he would like to modify it. He stated he would like to convert the garage to living space and install a diamond shaped window above the garage door.

Seager stated he didn't have a problem with the garage door, but he did not think it appropriate to put in a diamond shaped window in the peak of a garage. Seager stated that the window should be set square.

Keyes stated that she thought any window would look inappropriate in a garage. Cole stated that she would rather not see a window in the garage. Madden stated that he thought a typical window would be fine.

Chairman Nado stated that he would be okay with a vertical window, but he would like to know what size trim he would use on the window.

The Commission agreed that there was not enough information or detail to approve the application for the garage door and asked the applicant to continue the hearing.

HDC 06-35 – 132 Clift Street; Kersten Elentyeny, owner; Peter Springsteel, applicant; removal of shutters. PIN 261914324910

Peter Springsteel presented pictures to the Commission. He stated they are proposing to remove the shutters.

The Commission did not see a problem with removing the shutters.

Chairman Nado asked for public comments and there were none.

The following exhibits were presented:

- 4 pictures

The public hearing was closed at 7:45 p.m.

DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 06-34 – 83 Library Street

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

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

HDC 06-35 – 132 Clift Street

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

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

PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Carol Kanabis, 32-34 West Main Street stated that she had already put up a new sign and didn't realize that she needed to apply for a Certificate of Appropriateness. Ms. Kanabis stated that she also put in a walk-in cooler and would like to apply for approval for this as well.

Seager stated that the applicant should hire an architect to help design something to make the walk-in cooler look more appropriate to the historic district.

Ms. Kanabis suggested painting it the color of the building or building a fence.

The Commission suggested she bring in some ideas and dimensions of the coolers.

The Commission stated the sign would be appropriate to the historic district.

Chairman Nado stated that there are different windows in the front of the restaurant than what was approved on the application. Chairman Nado stated that the applicant has installed doors and not windows. Chairman Nado suggested she either replace the windows with what was approved or reapply for a modification at the next meeting.

Mr. Owens at 45 West Main Street represented his brother Tim who owns the building. He submitted pictures of the roof and building and stated he would like to reroof the building. Mr. Owens stated that there is tarp on the roof and they would like to move on this as quickly as possible.

The Commission did not see a problem using one of the darker color architectural shingles.

GDW LLC, 49, 51 & 53 West Main Street. He would like to replace the façade around the bookstore with a new brick façade. He stated that he was removing all the old brick on all sides of the building and replacing it with new brick. He would like to use the “town square” style brick for the building. Seager asked if the mortar would be flush with the brick and the applicant stated yes.

The Commission thought the new brick would be a significant improvement.

Jennifer DeBell, owner of Relax Spa at 29 West Main Street would like to put up a new sign. She showed the Commission a rough draft of the proposed sign. Ms. DeBell also would like to put up a menu board. The Commission asked that she show a picture with dimensions of the sign and menu board at the hearing, but thought the sign appropriate.

John O’Donnel, contractor for the owners of 209 High Street would like to reroof the building. He showed pictures of different colored shingles that are currently on the roof. Mr. O’Donnel would like to reroof with all one color architectural shingle in weathered wood.

Mr. O’Donnel stated that he is going to replace the skylights on the back part of the roof. The Commission was unsure if these lights were viewable from a public way. They will individually see if it’s visible. The Commission stated that if it’s viewable then the applicant must submit pictures with exact dimensions of the skylights.

Mr. O’Donnel showed a picture of a window he would like to remove and clapboard it up. The Commission was undecided on whether that would be appropriate. There was discussion on flashing around the window.

Fred Moy owner of 16 Bank Street, a vacant lot with only a shed. He handed out a floor plan and a drawing of the proposed front of the house. Mr. Moy also circulated a drawing of the back of the proposed house. The Commission stated that they are looking to maintain a certain rhythm of the street. They stated they would not want a new house that overshadows the carpenter gothics in the area. There was discussion on what might be appropriate to the historic district in that area.

Bob Mercer representing the owners of 15 Gravel Street presented drawings for an addition to the existing dwelling. They also want to remove vinyl siding and replace with hardi plank. The Commission had no problems with the proposed work.

Paul Jalbert of 5 Rowland Street showed drawings of a proposed addition to the west side of the dwelling. He has been working with an architect. The Commission felt he was moving in the right direction by bringing the dormer up into the roof line.

Harold Lueck of 5 Grove Avenue consulted with Bill Bertsche about the renovations to the building. At this point he is going to make repairs that include removing the vinyl siding and roof work. There was discussion on what would require Commission approval.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of June 20, 2006

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

OLD BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the renovations at 32-34 West Main Street.

NEW BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. made by Seagar, seconded by Madden, so voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Cole, Secretary