

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on January 26, 2016 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson  
Douglas Ovian, Vice Chairperson  
Chris Lyons  
Jennifer Wolf  
Daniel Bucknam, Alternate  
Damian Cregeau, Alternate  
John Aforismo, Alternate

Members Absent: Mark Raymond, Clerk

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator  
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Ovian read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on January 14, 2016.

**APPLICATION NO. 4467-16.** Soupspoon LLC seeks to install two (2) additional painted wood signs with the dimensions of 12'x2' and 6' diameter round at 263 Main Street.

Julia Koulouris, 67 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. There are two signs. One is a 12'x2' sign made out of recycled wood from the back barns and hand painted by a local artist. The sign would hang above the front entrance. The second sign is a 6' round sign also constructed from the same recycled wood and hand painted. This sign would be mounted to the roof above and to the right of the front door. If the signs can't be placed in the selected locations outside, they have a place for them inside. The signs are flat painted in colors appropriate to the Historic District. Images of the signs and their proposed locations were submitted. Due to the number of signs already on the building, the applicant will have to request a variance from Zoning so a letter from the HDC would help their case in order to maintain the existing historic signage and the addition of their own.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application.

Cindy Hughes, 14 Meggat Park, spoke in favor of the application.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone else wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4468-16.** Julie Revaz seeks to retain the installation of a split duct heating system which includes exterior boxed ductwork on the side of the house at 9 Avalon Place.

Julie Revaz, 9 Avalon Place, and Chris French, Thomaston Oil, appeared before the Commission. A letter from Julie Revaz dated January 8, 2016, was read into the record. The system was installed in 2007. It is located behind the sunroom. There is a small boxed duct on the side of the house that has been painted to match the house. A photo was submitted.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Garrey, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Lyons, Wolf, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4467-16.** Soupspoon LLC seeks to install two (2) additional painted wood signs with the dimensions of 12'x2' and 6' diameter round at 263 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Wolf seconded by Commissioner Aforismo and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Wolf stated that it's lovely.

Commissioner Garrey stated that they are lovely signs.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Lyons, Wolf, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4468-16.** Julie Revaz seeks to retain the installation of a split duct heating system which includes exterior boxed ductwork on the side of the house at 9 Avalon Place.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian seconded by Commissioner Wolf and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that the impact on the District is extremely minimal. The attempt to cool that area, with few options, it's a necessity.

Commissioner Wolf stated that the unit itself is fine, but the ductwork is unfortunate. She wouldn't want to see it in that way again, but she concurs with Commissioner Ovian's statement otherwise.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Lyons, Wolf, Aforismo

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2016**

Upon motion by Commissioner Lyons, seconded by Commissioner Wolf and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the minutes of the January 12, 2016 meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Lyons, Wolf, Aforismo

**PRE-APPLICATION HEARING FOR 146 MAIN STREET.** Larissa Lake seeks to discuss plans to renovate a single family residence located in the Village Business District into a business which shall include building an addition, a porch, a lift or ramp, creating a parking area, landscape/hardscape designs and other exterior alternations.

Larissa Lake and Antonio Lenocci, 43 Pratt Street, Rocky Hill, Ozzy Torrez, responsible for the plot plan for draining and parking, and Don DiLeo, Builder, discussed their plans in detail. The building will be converted to a salon and spa. There are a lot of plans to change the exterior of the building. They would like to remove the chimney and replace the roof. They would like to re-side the house with 4" vinyl with a wood grain. The house currently has aluminum siding that is in poor condition. They want to construct a porch, construct an addition, add a handicapped lift, and create a parking area. Plot plans, computer drawings, and samples were provided and discussed.

**APPROVAL OF THE 2015 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM**

Upon motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Ovian and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the Annual Report as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Lyons, Wolf, Aforismo, Bucknam, Cregeau

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Public Comments on General Matters of the Historic District**

Commissioner Garrey submitted a statement on behalf of the HDC in support of the additional signs for Application #4467-16. Kristin will submit it to the Zoning Department to be presented to the Zoning Board of Appeals. It reads as follows:

*On Tuesday, January 26, 2016, the WHDC unanimously approved the new signage proposal for Heirloom Market at Comstock Ferre. We feel the material and execution of the signs is very appropriate and complimentary to the property.*

*Additionally, we feel the existing signage is a very important part of the property with respect to both history and aesthetics.*

*The scale and massing of this property and the variety of structures and materials lends itself to more quantity and variety of signage than may otherwise be appropriate on a more modern commercial structure.*

*The WHDC supports a variance to allow for signage in excess of current zoning regulations due to the special circumstances and important historical significance of the Comstock Ferre property.*

*Thank you,  
The Wethersfield Historic District Commission*

**Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

None.

**Correspondence**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Ovia and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:54 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Ovia, Lyons, Wolf, Aforismo

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Douglas Ovia  
- Clerk Pro Tem -