

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on January 12, 2010 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson
John Maycock, Vice Chairperson
Gary McLeod, Clerk
Michael Rell
Susan O'Brien
Bette Botticello, Alternate
Mark Raymond, Alternate
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate

Members Absent: None

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

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner McLeod, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Hartford Courant* on January 1, 2010.

APPLICATION NO. 3772-10. James Campbell seeking to demolish the rear porch and build a 16' x 14' one story addition at 305 Hartford Avenue.

James Campbell of 305 Hartford Avenue appeared before the Commission. He wants to replace the existing back porch and incorporate it into the 8' x 12' kitchen and build a screened in porch off the expanded kitchen. There will be two supports installed to support the screened porch, and the existing foundation will be used for the kitchen portion of the addition. There will be no windows on the kitchen extension, but will have a small access door to the side tied to the sidewalk. They will incorporate the existing siding material (wood clapboard) and fenestrations into the addition. They will re-create what's there now – the scallops and peaks with cedar shake on the side – to match the existing all in wood. The stairway from the back porch will be reconstructed to match as well. There will be no windows, only wood screens in the porch addition. The roofing will match the existing. The lattice around base of screen porch will be a cross-hatch pattern in wood. The gutters will match the existing in copper.

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

APPLICATION NO. 3773-10. Arthur Abronzino Jr. seeking to replace the front door and replace the front entryway siding with cultured stone at 186 Middletown Avenue.

Arthur Abronzino Jr. of 186 Middletown Avenue and Brian Levesque of American Painting and Home Improvement, 119 State Street appeared before the Commission. They appeared previously and had requested new siding with scalloping around the front door. Now they would like to put cultured stone around the front door instead. The current door is fiberglass and the door proposed will also be fiberglass and will match the existing except the new door will have a half-moon window. Muntins are built into the window, three split, simulated divided light. The stone will be in Valley Forge color. The mortar will not be visible from the road. There is an end cap to the siding where it meets the stone.

The trim around the peak over the stone will be flush with the stone. There will also be a black lantern style fixture.

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.

APPLICATION NO. 3774-10. J. Michaels Catering LLC seeking to replace the existing signage with new signage at 222 Main Street.

Applicant did not appear.

APPLICATION NO. 3775-10. Maria Dynia and Gwen Haley seeking to construct a two story single family dwelling at 138 Church Street.

Gary Vivian of Cactus Design LLC, 43 Old Pewter Lane, appeared before the Commission. The home owners would like to rebuild the house lost in the tornado to match the previous house as closely as possible. They would like to add 3' to the back of the house and add an additional room. The porch windows will be slightly different and the bedroom windows on the 2nd floor will be slightly larger to accommodate current building code requirements. Style, height, and materials will match the original house. The square footage will be slightly larger. The front porch will be same size and configuration with a new 153 square foot deck at the rear in the east corner. The garage will not be changed. Photographs were taken of the original house before it was demolished and all trim will be matched as closely as possible. For windows, they are proposing Marvin Ultimate double hung windows. It's an all wood window, aluminum clad, in Sierra White color. The windows are simulated divided light, with muntins permanently affixed to inside, outside and between the glass. The exterior window trim will be an Azek-type material the siding will come up to the Azek and will be painted, cut like the wood with the same profile with the wood trim around that was typical to Hubbard style houses. The front porch door will be an uninsulated wood storm door as was there previously. Porch details – corner on inset will change a little in proportions. They don't have the wider area for the pilasters on either side of the door, but the corners will still mimic that detail. Traditional wood railing with shadow lines and design added with Azek around it. Typical lattice framed on the bottom of the deck in the rear. Roof trim will match what was there before. Trim and cornerboard will match what was there before. Siding will be a Hardy Plank material painted close to the way it was before with the same 8" exposure and smooth. The chimney will be plain basic with minimal corbelling on the top and it will be centered in the middle of the house. There will be two light fixtures on either side of the front door and on the rear will be a Quoizel light fixture.

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.

APPLICATION NO. 3776-10. Aspen Contracting, Inc. seeking to replace the aluminum siding with vinyl siding at 123 Church Street.

BJ Shalas of Aspen Contracting, 161 Mill Street, Berlin, appeared before the Commission. He is a proposing a siding change from aluminum to vinyl. The profile will change from 8" to 4". All trim will be white to match existing. The siding will go from smooth to wood grain double 4" in a Silver Gray color. The house is currently white. The windows, doors, and gutters will not be changed. The windows will be rewrapped in new white aluminum.

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.

APPLICATION NO. 3777-10. Susanne Kent seeking to install replacement windows at 2 Middletown Avenue.

Susanne Kent of 2 Middletown Avenue appeared before the Commission. She would like to replace 11 windows in her home. She replaced the windows on the 1st floor a few years ago and would like to match those for the 2nd floor. She is proposing to use Harvey aluminum clad wood windows which were previously approved by the Commission. The windows are one over one windows with no muntins. No trim will be replaced. The shutters will be replaced since they were damaged in the tornado. They will be the same style and color.

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.

APPLICATION NO. 3778-10. Allan Wong seeking to install a venting pipe for a wood stove at 467-469 Middletown Avenue.

Allan Wong of 467-469 Middletown Avenue, appeared before the Commission. He would like to install a pellet stove in his house. He has to install a venting pipe 2½ feet from the roof line above the front entrance door. It will be a 3" diameter black cast iron pipe.

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 O'Brien seconded by Commissioner Maycock, and a poll of the commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications except number 3774-10 which shall be left open and open the public meeting on all applications except number 3774-10.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

APPLICATION NO. 3772-10. James Campbell seeking to demolish the rear porch and build a 16' x 14' one story addition at 305 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioner O'Brien stated that they have done a beautiful job with the house. The application was in fitting with the neighborhood and with the home itself. It will add to the neighborhood and it is a solid application. Commissioner Garrey agreed.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

APPLICATION NO. 3773-10. Arthur Abronzino Jr. seeking to replace the front door and replace the front entryway siding with cultured stone at 186 Middletown Avenue.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is another excellent application.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

APPLICATION NO. 3775-10. Maria Dynia and Owen Haley seeking to construct a two story single family dwelling at 138 Church Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that he is glad the home owner picked the architect that they did. He has done a lot of excellent work in the neighborhood. He is also happy that they are going to recreate the home like it once was and any changes they are making will be an improvement. Commissioner Garrey agreed and stated that this was clearly a new construction project and there was no requirement on the home owners' part to replicate what was there, but being true to the Hubbard neighborhood and to the original home is wonderful.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

APPLICATION NO. 3776-10. Aspen Contracting, Inc. seeking to replace the aluminum siding with vinyl siding at 123 Church Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to DENY the application.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that it is a big change going from 8" to 4" and it is too much of a change. Commissioner Garrey stated that when you get to vinyl, and in his opinion, when you get to 8" it bends too much. He would prefer to see something in between. Commissioner O'Brien stated that she wasn't comfortable with that particular material.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

APPLICATION NO. 3777-10. Susanne Kent seeking to install replacement windows at 2 Middletown Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioner O'Brien stated that there is no impact in changing these windows in this particular home.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

APPLICATION NO. 3778-10. Allan Wong seeking to install a venting pipe for a wood stove at 467-469 Middletown Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The venting pipe shall be black cast iron and 3" in diameter.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a very minimal impact.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2009

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, the minutes of the December 8, 2009 meeting were approved without objection.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell

Abstention: O'Brien

APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM FOR 2009

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, the Annual Report to the Commission on Culture and Tourism for 2009 was approved without objection.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

None.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

The Historic District Commission would like to welcome our new member, Lisa Wurzer.

Correspondence

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Rell, O'Brien

Respectfully Submitted
TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Gary McLeod
Clerk