

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on March 23, 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
Michael Rell
Susan O'Brien
Bette Botticello, Alternate

Members Absent: Gary McLeod, Clerk
Mark Raymond, Alternate
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate

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 Maycock, Clerk Pro Tem, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Hartford Courant* on March 12, 2010.

APPLICATION NO. 3789-10. Alan and Norma Peck seeking to replace the wood cedar shakes with Cedar Impressions shake vinyl siding at 8 Railroad Place.

Alan and Norma Peck of 8 Railroad Place appeared before the Commission. They would like to side their house with vinyl shakes. They originally requested and prefer to use 4" vinyl clapboard in Pacific Blue, but were denied by the Commission. They will be using Cedar Impressions double 7" shake vinyl siding with mitered corners in Pacific Blue color. They will re-use the existing awnings. The windows and eaves will be wrapped in aluminum. The trim will be white. There will be no changes to doors/windows/gutters.

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. 3790-10. Sandy Byrne seeking to install new signage at 221 Main Street.

Sandy and Alan Byrne of 75 Apple Hill, Wethersfield, appeared before the Commission. They would like to install a new painted wood sign over the doorway. It will have blue and black script lettering.

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

Ozlem Camli of 84 Hillcrest Avenue spoke in favor of the application.

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. 3787-10. Paul Brennan seeking to reconstruct the rear porch, repair the front porch, replace the rear and front entry doors and replace the kitchen windows at 118 Church Street. (Tabled from the February 23, 2010 meeting. The last date to act is April 13, 2010.)

Christopher Moylan of 118 Church Street and Paul Brennan of 3 Burbank Road, Ellington, appeared before the Commission. The reconstruction of rear porch, repairs to the front porch, rear entry door and replacement of kitchen windows were all discussed at a previous meeting. There were some questions on the replacement front door. They have new door selections. This is a solid embossed fiberglass Barrington style door from the Mahogany Collection. It has etched glass without individual panes. The applicant is not in favor of a wood door due to energy efficiency.

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 Maycock seconded by Commissioner Rell, and a poll of the commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications and open the public meeting.

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

APPLICATION NO. 3789-10. Alan and Norma Peck seeking to replace the wood cedar shakes with Cedar Impressions shake vinyl siding at 8 Railroad Place.

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 Cedar Impressions has been used very successfully in the District.

Commissioner Garrey agrees. The Commission has seen some successful applications with Cedar Impressions. While the home was originally wood cedar clapboard, the Commission generally has not approved homes going from clapboard to vinyl clapboard because it doesn't adequately replicate wood clapboard; while the Cedar Impressions shake vinyl does a great job of replicating the wood shake.

Commissioner O'Brien stated that this is minimal impact.

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

APPLICATION NO. 3790-10. Sandy Byrne seeking to install new signage at 221 Main Street.

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 Maycock stated that this is a beautiful sign.

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

APPLICATION NO. 3787-10. Paul Brennan seeking to reconstruct the rear porch, repair the front porch, replace the rear and front entry doors and replace the kitchen windows at 118 Church Street. (Tabled from the February 23, 2010 meeting. The last date to act is April 13, 2010.)

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 existing front door shall remain.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that the application was excellent except for the door choice. The applicant is doing an excellent job with the porch reconstruction, the windows in the back and revealing the original windows in the kitchen.

Commissioner Garrey stated that he thinks that the Commission has seen some successful fiberglass doors. If the applicant replicated the existing door with fiberglass, it wouldn't be a problem. The problem is the style change.

Commissioner Botticello agrees that she would like to see the door remain the same.

Commissioner O'Brien stated that the style of the door proposed is not in keeping with the style of the current house, so she agrees.

Commissioner Rell stated that as much as the divided pane proposed door is second choice, that is a huge improvement over the oval door proposed last month and a somewhat better improvement over the applicant's first choice tonight. Going from wood to fiberglass is too much of a step. He agrees with Commissioner Maycock.

Aye: Maycock, Rell, Botticello

Abstain: Garrey, O'Brien

MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2010

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Rell and a poll of the Commission, the minutes of the March 9, 2010 meeting were approved as submitted.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

None.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

Kristin Stearley handed out an article from *Fine Homebuilding* titled "Should Your Old Windows Be Saved?"

Correspondence

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner O'Brien and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 7:58 PM.

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

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING

Town House 88 of Sharon Lane seeking to discuss appropriate fencing materials to correct tornado damage to existing fencing.

Marie Mammone of 64 Sharon Lane, Susan Gillanders of 66 Sharon Lane, and Jody Krutzmer of TP Management LLC appeared before the Commission. The condominium association suffered damage to fencing on the property after the June tornado. The association presented a composite material, Fiberon, as a possible replacement for the existing wood basket weave fencing. The composite material is the same redwood color as the existing fencing. As the basket weave pattern is no longer available, the association would like to use a shadowbox style. The association would like to go with the composite material because it is affordable, low maintenance, long lasting material and it looks nice. Commissioners agreed that the material was a good replication of wood.

Respectfully Submitted
TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John Maycock
Clerk Pro Tem