

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on July 27, 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  
Bette Botticello  
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate  
Susan Gillanders, Alternate

Members Absent: Michael Rell  
Mark Raymond, Alternate

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

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner McLeod, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Hartford Courant* on July 16, 2010.

**APPLICATION NO. 3843-10.** Shelagh Schubert seeking to retain the vinyl siding on the gable end at 89 Garden Street.

Mike Schubert of 89 Garden Street appeared before the Commission. In April, Aspen Contracting was hired by the owner to apply vinyl siding to their house and an application was submitted to the Commission. The application was approved with a stipulation that the vinyl siding not be applied to the gable end, however, Aspen did apply the vinyl siding to the gable end and the owner would like permission to retain the siding on the gable end.

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. 3841-10.** Andy Bykowski seeking to enclose the front alcove at 16 Fernwood Street. (Left open from the July 13, 2010 meeting. The last date to act is August 24, 2010.)

Andy Bykowski of 16 Fernwood Street appeared before the Commission. There is a small alcove in the area between the door and the main body of the house that he would like to enclose, using the existing vinyl clapboard siding and one of the existing windows. The alcove will meet on the same plain as the front door and main body of the house. The roofline will extend out at the same angle. The alcove space is approximately 6' x 9'. There will be uniform siding across the front. The foundation will be built up to match the existing foundation, however, the owner will discuss his plan with the Building Department before finalizing.

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 McLeod, 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, McLeod, Botticello, Wurzer

**APPLICATION NO. 3843-10.** Shelagh Schuberth seeking to retain the vinyl siding on the gable end at 89 Garden Street.

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

**Discussion**

Commissioner Maycock stated that originally when the application came in there was a lot of discussion regarding the gable. A very unique and defining feature on the house will be lost if it is not maintained.

Commissioner Garrey stated that the gable is a very unique feature with the flat board and the window is prominent. He would think that since the contractor and not the homeowner was present at the initial hearing, the contractor would work with the homeowner to correct the mistake.

Commissioner Wurzer stated that it's also important to set the precedent that if the Commission made a decision and a stipulation and if the homeowner inadvertently or intentionally doesn't abide by it, that the Commission doesn't just let it pass.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello, Wurzer

**APPLICATION NO. 3841-10.** Andy Bykowski seeking to enclose the front alcove at 16 Fernwood Street. (Left open from the July 13, 2010 meeting. The last date to act is August 24, 2010.)

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

1. All siding and trim shall match the existing.
2. The window shall be reused and moved forward.
3. The foundation shall match the existing.

**Discussion**

Commissioner Maycock stated that he thinks this will clean up the front of the house and it will look nice. He doesn't think the roofline will work, but that can be an amendment later on when the owner talks it over with the Building Department.

Commissioner Garrey stated that he could bring the roofline that low, but it's not going to work with that window. He liked the break, but the rooflines are all still very different and you will still get a lot of variation there in design and he doesn't think that the way the house is designed, the stucco stands out as a prominent feature so the uniformity of the siding really helps the structure.

Commissioner McLeod stated that he thinks it's a good idea, but with three roofs going to meet into one, he doesn't know if it will work.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello, Wurzer

**MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2010**

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, the minutes of the July 13, 2010 meeting were approved as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello, Wurzer

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Election of Officers**

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, Robert Garrey was elected as Chairman.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, John Maycock was elected as Vice Chairman.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey, seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, Gary McLeod was elected as Clerk.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello

**Approval of 2011 Meeting Schedule**

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Botticello and a poll of the Commission, the proposed 2011 Meeting Schedule was approved as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello, Wurzer

**Public comments on general matters of the Historic District**

Colleen Sheridan of 31 State Street appeared before the Commission. One hour parking signs have appeared on 16 spaces on Main Street in Old Wethersfield. Downtown employees should be parking elsewhere as they take up the available space for the majority of the day. One hour parking is ridiculous. Will there be a dedicated police officer monitoring the 16 spaces? What will the fine be for a violation? Have all business owners been spoken to regarding these signs? The signs are ugly – did the HDC approve these signs or were they even consulted?

Commissioner Garrey stated that the Commission cannot monitor traffic signs and this is a police issue, but he would be curious to see what the Shopkeeper's Association would say about this topic.

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is a well written letter that should be brought up to the Mayor or the Town Council. If employee parking is a problem, the business owners should get together and discuss where the employees should be parking.

**Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

None.

**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 8:12 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, McLeod, Botticello, Wurzer

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Gary McLeod  
Clerk