

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on January 8, 2008 in room S-2 at the Pitkin Community Center, 30 Greenfield Street, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Eric Hart, Vice Chairperson
John Maycock, Clerk
Gary McLeod

Members Absent: Robert Garrey, Chairperson
Susan O'Brien
Bette Botticello, Alternate
Paul Camarco, Alternate
Mark Raymond, Alternate

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator

Commissioner Hart, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:30PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Maycock, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Hartford Courant* on December 28, 2007.

APPLICATION NO. 3556-08. Guiseppe Buonannata seeking to install fencing at 15 Middletown Avenue.

Guiseppe Buonannata and Erica Marques of 15 Middletown Avenue appeared before the commission. A plot plan showing the proposed location of the fence was provided.

Mr. Buonannata explained that he wishes to fence in the yard with a white vinyl fence. He stated he chose vinyl because his property is in a flood zone, and he felt a wood fence would warp and require more maintenance. He stated he had spoken with Kristin Stearley and was aware that vinyl fences are rarely approved by the commission. He stated he was willing to paint the vinyl fence to reduce the shine.

As an alternative Mr. Buonannata stated he would install a wood picket fence with 4 x 4 posts with French gothic caps. The fence would be 3 ½ to 4' high. There will be one gate.

Commissioner Hart 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. 3557-08. William R. & Christine N. Donahue seeking to install replacement windows at 360 Hartford Avenue.

William Donahue of 360 Hartford Avenue appeared before the commission. The proposal is to replace 11 windows on the north and east sides of the house with Eagle replacement windows to match other windows on the house that were replaced three years ago. The proposed windows are wood with simulated divided lights. The existing light pattern will be replicated.

Commissioner Hart 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. 3558-08. George Chester seeking to install fencing at 168 Broad Street.

The applicant was not able to appear before the commission, but sent a letter dated January 7, 2008 explaining his proposed project.

The application and letter explain that the proposed fence is similar to other fences installed on other properties on the east side of Broad Street. It will be 6' high and will not be painted. Instead it will be allowed to weather to a natural grey. A picture of the proposed fence was provided showing a stockade fence. A plot plan was also provided showing the proposed location of the fence.

Commissioner Hart 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. 3559-08. Diane Dawson seeking to install replacement windows at 28 Towne House Lane.

Diane Dawson of 28 Towne House Lane appeared before the commission. Also appearing was Raymond Komorowski of Renewal by Andersen located at 719 Silas Deane Highway Wethersfield.

Mr. Komorowski explained that a total of eight windows will be replaced with Renewal by Andersen windows. The proposed color is Sandstone. The windows will be double-hung with 6/1 lights to match the existing. There is a picture window that will be replaced with a window with 10/10 lights to match the existing. The windows will be inserted and there will be no effect on the exterior trim.

Commissioner Hart 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. 3560-08. Frank Pretter seeking to amend the approved Certificate of Appropriateness to change the dimensions of the addition at 51 Harmund Place.

Margaret Pretter of 51 Harmund Place appeared before the commission. She explained that the applicant wishes to extend the addition from 11' x 12' to 14' x 12'. The picture window will remain in the same location.

Commissioner Hart 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.

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

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

APPLICATION NO. 3556-08. Guiseppe Buonannata seeking to install fencing at 15 Middletown Avenue.

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

- The fence shall be a 4' picket fence of wood material.

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated the applicant should not have a problem using a wood fence if the wood is pressure-treated.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

APPLICATION NO. 3557-08. William R. & Christine N. Donahue seeking to install replacement windows at 360 Hartford Avenue.

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

Discussion

Commissioner McLeod noted that by replacing the windows with the proposed product all the windows in the house will match. Commissioner Hart agreed stating that the applicant is completing a project with a product that was previously approved.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

APPLICATION NO. 3558-08. George Chester seeking to install fencing at 168 Broad Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated the proposed fence is appropriate for the district. Commissioner McLeod agreed saying the fence will have a minimal impact on the district.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

APPLICATION NO. 3559-08. Diane Dawson seeking to install replacement windows at 28 Towne House Lane.

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

Discussion

Commissioner McLeod stated the proposed windows are appropriate as the installation will not disrupt the exterior trim and the amount of glass surface will be maximized by the thinner window trim.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

APPLICATION NO. 3560-08. Frank Pretter seeking to amend the approved Certificate of Appropriateness to change the dimensions of the addition at 51 Harmund Place.

Upon motion by Commissioner McLeod, seconded by Commissioner Hart and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the amendment as submitted.

Discussion

Commissioners agreed that the change will have minimal impact on the district and has low visibility.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF: December 11, 2007

Upon motion by Commissioner Hart, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, the minutes of the December 11, 2007 meeting were approved without objection.

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

None.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

Kristin Stearley reminded the commissioners that FOI training will be conducted at the January 22, 2008 meeting. She stressed the importance that all commission members attend the training session.

Review and Approval of Annual Report to the Commission on Culture and Tourism

Commissioner Hart asked whether the report was required through a provision in the HDC's by-laws. Ms. Stearley indicated the report is mandated by state statute and is to be delivered to the state Commission on Culture and Tourism.

Upon motion by Commissioner Hart, seconded by Commissioner McLeod and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to approve the Annual Report to the Commission on Culture and Tourism.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Hart and seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, it was unanimously voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:10PM.

Aye: Hart, Maycock, McLeod

Respectfully Submitted
TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John Maycock
Clerk