

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on February 11, 2014 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
John Maycock, Clerk
Mark Raymond
Cynthia Greenblatt, Alternate

Members Absent: Chris Lyons
Lisa Wurzer, Alternate
Damien Cregeau, Alternate
Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator

Also Present: Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Maycock, Clerk, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on January 30, 2014.

APPLICATION NO. 4232-14. Mary Pelletier seeks to construct a brick and slate masonry chimney cap for a chimney liner at 61 State Street.

Mary Pelletier, 61 State Street, appeared before the Commission. A photo was submitted. She would like to install a standard brick masonry chimney cap with a slate top on the main chimney on the front of the house.

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. 4231-14. Payton Clancy seeks to replace the front picture window at 55 Hartford Avenue.

Tanya Heacock, 55 Hartford Avenue, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace the picture window, which is original to the house. The rest of the house has newer windows. They would like to use a Mercury Excelum Advantage Series window. The windows will have a 1/1 light pattern. The picture window would be replaced with three separate window units. The existing trim will remain. The addition has Andersen 400 windows in a 1/1 light pattern.

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. 4233-14. Cactus Design LLC seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4157-13 to retain the existing and non-conforming design changes which include the change of columns on the front porch from three (3) on each corner to one (1) on each corner; the elimination of the masonry chimney cap and the installation of two (2) clay stacks; the change of the roof design on the back porch from a shed roof to a hipped roof; the elimination of the back deck; and to change the material of the shutters from wood composite to wood at 65 Robbinswood Drive.

Gary Vivian, 43 Old Pewter Lane, appeared before the Commission. There is only one column on each corner of the front porch. The homeowner felt that there was enough detail on the front. The 10" columns match the columns in the back of the house. The chimney cap has a plain band on top to finish the chimney. The contractor suggested they leave the top open. The roof design on the back porch was changed from a shed roof to a hipped roof due to drainage issues. They eliminated the back deck because the rear yard is small and the area would be limited with the deck. The shutters were proposed to be composite wood louver style. The contractor ordered and installed vinyl shutters. There is an 8 week lead time for the composite wood louver shutters. The homeowner prefers vinyl over wood shutters. The shutters are black. There was also a hot tub submitted on the original drawings which will be installed.

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 Ovian, 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, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Greenblatt

APPLICATION NO. 4232-14. Mary Pelletier seeks to construct a brick and slate masonry chimney cap for a chimney liner at 61 State Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is a beautiful straightforward chimney cap.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovan, Raymond, Greenblatt

APPLICATION NO. 4231-14. Payton Clancy seeks to replace the front picture window at 55 Hartford Avenue.

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 stipulation:

1. The picture window shall be replaced with a Mercury Excelum vinyl window. The center window shall be one pane of glass with no light divisions and the side windows shall be double hung windows in a 1/1 light pattern.

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that he appreciates that they took the HDC's opinion into consideration. This will help maintain uniformity. It will look like a white 1/1 window from the street. If necessary, the homeowner can come back for an amendment.

Commissioner Ovan stated that he has concerns because they are adding a third kind of window to the house. The window should match the double front windows near the street or match the Andersen windows.

Commissioner Greenblatt stated that she has concerns that the homeowner isn't actually doing what they want to do. If they prefer the Colonial light pattern, there are other window options out there.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovan, Raymond, Greenblatt

APPLICATION NO. 4233-14. Cactus Design LLC seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4157-13 to retain the existing and non-conforming design changes which include the change of columns on the front porch from three (3) on each corner to one (1) on each corner; the elimination of the masonry chimney cap and the installation of two (2) clay stacks; the change of the roof design on the back porch from a shed roof to a hipped roof; the elimination of the back deck; and to change the material of the shutters from wood composite to wood at 65 Robbinswood Drive.

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

1. No shutters shall be installed.

Discussion

Commissioner Ovian stated that this is a beautiful home and it adds something to the District.

Commissioner Garrey stated that this is a beautiful home. He likes the single columns in the front. It was very well executed. The clay chimney pots are more appropriate.

Commissioner Greenblatt asked if there was an issue with the TCO if they have to wait for the wood composite shutters.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond

Abstain: Greenblatt

MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2014

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Greenblatt and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the January 28, 2014 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Greenblatt

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

Tanya Heacock asked for clarification on why an HDC approval was needed for changes to the back upper half of her garage when there is no public view.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

None.

Correspondence

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Greenblatt and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:11 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Raymond, Greenblatt

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John Maycock
-Clerk -