

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on July 8, 2014 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, Clerk
Douglas Ovian, Vice Chairperson
Chris Lyons
Mark Raymond
Damien Cregeau, Alternate

Members Absent: Lisa Wurzer, Alternate

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

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Maycock, read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on June 26, 2014.

APPLICATION NO. 4266-14. Ellen and Lewis Eastwood seek to 1) replace the clapboard siding with Certainteed Cedar Impressions 7" straight edge vinyl siding in the color Sterling Grey with white corner posts; 2) replace the shutters with vinyl shutters in the color black; 3) replace the front door with a fiberglass door; 4) replace the garage doors with carriage style doors; and 5) to construct a portico over the front entryway at 14 Garden Street. (Left open at the May 27, 2014, June 10, 2014 and June 24, 2014 meetings. The last date to act is July 8, 2014.)

The applicant requested that the application be withdrawn via a phone message to Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator on Monday, July 7, 2014.

APPLICATION NO. 4278-14. Ronald and Jennifer Edman seek to retain the installation of vinyl replacement windows and the installation of a replacement front door at 428 Middletown Avenue.

Jennifer Edman, 428 Middletown Avenue, appeared before the Commission. The work has already been completed. Photos were submitted. They have installed Harvey Slimline 6/6 vinyl replacement windows. They replaced the four front windows. The front door has been replaced with a fiberglass door with decorative glass panels. There is currently aluminum siding on the house. There is one original window on the garage.

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. 4279-14. Eric Hart seeks to replace a rear second story wood double hung window with a fixed wood octagonal window at 9 Fernwood Street.

Eric Hart, 9 Fernwood Street, appeared before the Commission. Photos were submitted. He would like to remove the existing double hung wood window on the rear center second story of the house and replace it with a full wood octagonal stationary window.

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. 4280-14. William and Karen Pilkington seek to replace the existing wood siding with vinyl Mastic Cedar Discovery Perfection shingles and to replace a picture and double hung wood window with Marvin Integrity Wood Ultrex series window at 15 Footepath Lane.

William Pilkington, 15 Foote Path Lane, and Guy Matteau, contractor, appeared before the Commission. The house currently has aluminum siding. They will also remove the original wood cedar shakes that are underneath the aluminum. They would like to use Mastic Cedar Discovery 7" in the color Desert. There will be straight corner boards in white. The trim will be wrapped in white aluminum. They also want to replace the front window and the window on the side to the left. They are original windows. They want to use Marvin Integrity windows. A sample window was provided. They will have muntins on the inside and outside. They will match light pattern and style.

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. 4281-14. Shawn Burke seeks to replace the wood siding with Kaycan Eagle Rock vinyl shingle style siding with mitered corners at 2 Howard Avenue.

Shawn Burke, 72 Stoner Drive, West Hartford, appeared before the Commission. They would like to install cedar-style siding. The homeowner is open to colors and finishings. They would like to use Kaycan Eagle Rock Perfection vinyl shingles. Samples were provided. The roof is currently brown. They would like to retain the louvered shutters. They would prefer to remove the vertical siding on the peak. If they can't remove the vertical siding, they will mimic it. They prefer a smoother finish. They will have a mitered corner and they will make the trim look as similar as it is now using coil. They will re-use existing 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. 4282-14. Violette Restorations LLC seeks to replace the wood siding with Mastic double 4" rolled vinyl siding and wrap all trim with aluminum at 177-179 Church Street.

Mike Violette, 15 Bobwhite Hill, Wethersfield, appeared before the Commission. They would like to replace existing wood siding with Mastic double 5" rolled vinyl siding. A sample was provided. They want to keep the same look with the exposure. There is a foam backer available, but they plan to use 3/8" insulation board. There will be a J channel on the bumpout. They will cap the trim to keep the same dimensions and profile. They will use coil but match the profile. The color would be Wicker or Sandtone. The siding is currently shake style. They will use white cornerboards.

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. 4283-14. Rich and Meher Shulman seek to replace a rear double hung window with an 8' sliding glass door, install stairs for the door, and install lighting at 40 Oldham Road.

Applicant was not present.

APPLICATION NO. 4284-14. Claire Carney seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4259-14 to change the color of the window exterior at 16 Raynor Lane.

Kristin Stearley, 505 Silas Deane Highway, appeared before the Commission. The applicant would like to change the color of the window exterior from Ivory to Bronze. She plans on changing the exterior color of her home to green with a brown roof.

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, except Application #4283-14 and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond

APPLICATION NO. 4278-14. Ronald and Jennifer Edman seek to retain the installation of vinyl replacement windows and the installation of a replacement front door at 428 Middletown Avenue.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Ovia stated that he wouldn't have approved the door or the windows if they came in advance. They are nicely done, but they don't replicate the look of the existing windows since they are grids between the glass. The Commission hasn't approved grids between the glass recently and he can say that the door itself isn't period with the home either. Most doorways of that era would not have a more modern look or contemporary look as that door has. They could ask the homeowner to apply grids to the exterior.

Commissioner Garrey stated that in that particular location they have approved similar products. It's close to the road, but it's well done considering the use of product. He doesn't have a problem with it. There is precedent for this in this area of town.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond Nay: Ovia

APPLICATION NO. 4279-14. Eric Hart seeks to replace a rear second story wood double hung window with a fixed wood octagonal window at 9 Fernwood Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that it has public view, but it has limited impact.

Commissioner Maycock stated that this is minimal impact. It's on the back of the house.

Aye: Garrey, Ovia, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond

APPLICATION NO. 4280-14. William and Karen Pilkington seek to replace the existing wood siding with vinyl Mastic Cedar Discovery Perfection shingles and to replace a picture and double hung wood window with Marvin Integrity Wood Ultrex series window at 15 Footpath Lane.

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

1. The siding shall be Cedar Discovery Perfection vinyl shingles with a 7" exposure in the color Desert Sand.
2. The windows shall be Marvin Infinity clad wood windows in the color white with the muntins permanently affixed to the exterior and interior and shall match the existing light patterns.
3. The two (2) windows on the northeast elevation (gable end) shall match in material, design, and dimensions.

Discussion

Commissioner Lyons stated that he asked the question about the depth of the mullions. For that second window on the west side, they were going to match as far as the trim, wrap and the size of the lights.

Commissioner Ovian stated that he normally wouldn't favor the removal of aluminum siding, however, since the property has shingles underneath it, there is an argument to be made that if there is going to be a synthetic wrapping on the house that a shingle style more accurately replicates the look of the home at its inception and is one of the things that we want to have still featured in the home today. He is concerned that the windows will age differently since they are different materials.

Commissioner Garrey stated that he thinks it's important and will be important to the homeowner that the side windows match. Sometimes it's hard to tell until you see the two products side by side.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond

APPLICATION NO. 4281-14. Shawn Burke seeks to replace the wood siding with Kaycan Eagle Rock vinyl shingle style siding with mitered corners at 2 Howard Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Maycock and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to TABLE the application.

Discussion

Commissioner Ovian stated that his biggest concern is that there are a whole bunch of houses in the District that look like this and the Commission has turned down applications with exactly the same type of siding. At the time, he argued that the Commission might want to consider allowing people to make the change. The Commission stated that that era of siding needs to be preserved and, unless it can be successfully replicated with synthetics, they need to wait for advances in the industry that allow them to do that.

Commissioner Lyons stated that they look at the area and surrounding homes as well as the period and he doesn't think that this one compares. It doesn't get the same traffic count.

Commissioner Raymond stated that they don't have enough information on what the owner wants. We need to know color and type before we can make a decision.

Commissioner Maycock stated that he just didn't want to pick colors.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond

APPLICATION NO. 4282-14. Violette Restorations LLC seeks to replace the wood siding with Mastic double 4" rolled vinyl siding and wrap all trim with aluminum at 177-179 Church Street.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that they've had conversations about cedar shake and wood to artificial siding, but in keeping with the style and character of the house, one of the other products that they've looked at would make more sense for this application.

Commissioner Maycock stated that putting vinyl on that house is going to destroy the character of the house.

Commissioner Ovian stated that the use of J channels, the siding won't replicate the look of the existing siding. This product in this particular proposal isn't the most successful effort.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond

APPLICATION NO. 4284-14. Claire Carney seeks to amend Certificate of Appropriateness Number 4259-14 to change the color of the window exterior at 16 Raynor Lane.

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

Discussion

Commissioner Garrey stated that the siding color can always change. It's an appropriate look. It's a choice based on personal taste.

Commissioner Ovian stated that when you put a dark trim on the window, you will lose the 12/12 pattern on the window. The windows will read as solid without being able to see the muntins and it will read very differently than what is there now.

Commissioner Raymond stated that it blends in. It's appropriate.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond Abstain: Ovian

MINUTES OF JUNE 24, 2014

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Ovian and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the June 24, 2014 meeting as amended.

Aye: Garrey, Maycock, Ovian, Lyons Abstain: Raymond

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond, seconded by Commissioner Lyons, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted elect Commissioner Garrey as Chairman, Commissioner Ovian as Vice Chairman, and Commissioner Maycock as Clerk.

Discussion

Commissioner Raymond stated that he feels that there is a good group dynamic and it should stay as is.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond, Cregeau

2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

Upon motion by Commissioner Maycock, seconded by Commissioner Ovian, and a poll of the Commission it was voted to approve the 2015 Meeting Schedule.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond, Cregeau

PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Pre-Application Hearing - Tom and Erin Kennedy seek to discuss plans to construct a 30'x30' addition off the rear of the house and to construct a two (2) car garage at 107 Garden Street.

Tom and Erin Kennedy, 107 Garden Street, appeared before the Commission. New drawings were submitted. A second story was added. They will keep rooflines the same. They will add shutters – there are none currently. They will be removing the chimney. The siding will be clapboard.

Pre-Application Hearing – Sara Eichelbaum and Jody Minotti seek to discuss plans to change the location of the front door from the front middle of the house to the front side of the house at 29 Woodland Street.

Sara Eichelbaum and Jody Minotti, 29 Woodland Street, appeared before the Commission. They would like to move the exterior door from the front middle of the house to either the right or the left. It is behind a closed porch. They will leave the porch entrance as is. Photos were submitted.

OTHER BUSINESS

Public comments on general matters of the Historic District

None.

Report of the Historic District Coordinator

The Heritage Trail will be on the agenda for the July 22nd meeting for a pre-application hearing.

Correspondence

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovia, seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:52 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Ovia, Maycock, Lyons, Raymond, Cregeau

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

John Maycock
-Clerk -