

WESTPORT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
JUNE 5th, 2017

Present

Members: Bill Kendall, Jane Loos, Paul Somerson, Geraldine Millham, Janet Jones, Rud Lawrence

Alternates: Caroline Bolter, Henry Swan, Beverly Schuch

Absent:

Members: David Paddock

Alternates: Ted Kinnari

Others in Attendance:

Barrett Allen- Recording Secretary

Dorina Costa -Signature Signs

Tim Field - Owner of Revolution Lobster

Noah Gagnon (and Mother)- Boy Scouts

Tony and Sharron Connors

Bill Kendall (BK), chair, opened meeting at 6:00pm.

A. General Business

1. BK gives a demonstration of early 18th C. window sash. BK donates to GM collection at the Handy House.
2. BK appoints alternate Henry Swan as voting member in place of David Paddock.
3. Minutes of May 1st, 2017 Meeting. Accepted. RL Moves, JJ 2nds, all in favor.
4. Treasurer's Report. 6-2-17. RL Moves, JJ 2nds, all in favor. **See attachment A**

B. Public Hearing

1. Application for a Cert. of Appropriateness for 1893 Main Rd. presented by owner Jane Loos. 6:18pm
 - a. Proposed work to include replacing a wooden gutter with a fiberglass gutter
 - b. Long and shallow shed roof with 3 downspouts results in the existing gutter overflowing in a heavy rainstorm. The gutters have been cleaned and the water drains underground. The window sashes below this section of roof are rotting due to water overflow. The presented Fiberglass G-90 profile matches the existing wood gutter, but can carry 30-40% more water. The gutter will be painted. Round, galvanized downspouts will be installed
 - c. Monitors are PS and CB. GM motions to accept as presented, RL 2nds, all in favor.

B. Other Business

1. 1893 Main Rd. presented by owner Jane Loos Certificate of Non-App. to change the door swing. All other features will be like-for-like. Monitors are PS and CB. RL motions to accept as presented, JJ 2nds, all in favor.

2. Presentation by Signature Signs for Lee's Warf signage change. 6:32

a. Dorina Costa (Signature Signs) and Tim Field (Owner of Revolution Lobster) present changes to signage made due to wind levels. Instead of temporary hanging signs below sign with Lobster Rolls, as suggested, they made a structurally permanent sign where letters could show weekly specials, etc. A sandwich board style could be used for the fish market specials, etc. WHC recommends taking down the lower section of the new sign and using a wood and chalkboard rather than a plastic board. RL motions to accept as presented, JJ 2nds, all in favor.

3. Proposed Veterans' monument at the Head of the Westport River. Presentation of plans by Noah Gagnon 6:45pm

a. Presented is Noah's service project to become an Eagle Scout. A 5' wide walk way (pavers) leads to a 6' dia. granite memorial circle, flush to grade, with three granite or composite benches placed around the circle. This will also include a 20' flagpole that will be lit with solar power.

b. Issues with parking in the area, especially now with the Watershed's new HQ. WHC is concerned with lighted flagpole, high traffic, and disruption to the preservation of the Powder House.

c. RL suggests the cemetery so it can be incorporated into the Memorial Day parade. Noah would like to place it in a spot with high foot traffic. Another option Noah has looked at is the American Legion Post, but is less visible for the public. WHC recommends the lawn in front of the Town Hall. There would be steady traffic for visiting and fundraising, plenty of parking, there is already a flagpole.

d. JL moves to propose to the Board of Selectman that this is a commendable memorial but the location is not appropriate. WHC suggests to move the monument to the yard in front of the Town Hall for a better location, visibility, parking, handicap accessibility, community standing, PS seconds, all in favor.

4. Tony and Sharron Connors introduce newly purchased property.

a. Garage and chicken coop are made of plywood and Owners would like to demolish, the small cottage will be saved.

b. Dormers are scattered and will probably be renovated or removed. Intending to keep windows, unless rotted or possibly when updating kitchen.

c. Owners invite a subcommittee to come for a site visit to understand the property prior to any design ideas or planning. This will be organized through email.

A. General Business cont.

5. Powder House Award, Recognition and on the cover or Shorelines.

6. Monitors' Report

a. RL reports that the Fertado property has put up more siding, no windows have been changed

b. 1835 Main Rd. **See attachment B**

7. Certificates of non-applicability issued.

8. Handy House Subcommittee Report. **See attachment C**

9. Guidelines and Bylaw Amendment Subcommittee report. RL and GM present

a. Comments

1. JL- pg. 3, D, P1- The Project Checklist is an attachment with the application (along with the plans and photos). WHC suggests this checklist be stapled to the application for the applicant as well as online.

2. PS states that this is theoretical document and is not accessible enough for people to know what to expect and what to do when they own a house in the Historic District. A shorter and more direct document, a "quick start," an action oriented handout would be very helpful for homeowners. A "decision tree." PS and JL will draft this after the amendments are made to the guidelines.

3. JL- pg. 5, 2nd to last P, in addition, WHC must send a letter to the applicant stating the reasons why it was not approved. GM thinks this falls under the WHC rules, not the owners guidelines.

4. JL- pg 6, F 1st P, should be moved with the Project Checklist

5. JL- pg 10, clarify wood shingle can be untreated, stained, or painted

6. JL- pg 11, sentence on fences must be removed unless we get the bylaw changed.

7. JL- pg 16, bylaw was last amended in 2015

8. PS- pg. 12, define more directly

9. PS- admires the guidelines, feels like the annex in the beginning and we should put captions under the photos. Suggests that the guidelines be printed on a more contrasting paper.

b. JL moves that this is the final cut and can be printed, RL seconds, all in favor.

RL motions to adjourn, JL 2nds. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Attachments:

A: WHC Treasurer's Report as of 6-2-17

B: 1835 Main Rd. Monitor Report

C: Handy House Subcommittee Report

Draft Prepared by Barrett Allen 6-5-17

Minutes approved by WHC 7-10-17