

**Westport Historical Commission**  
**Meeting of Nov. 1, 2021**

In attendance were Commission Chair Rud Lawrence (RL) and members Caroline Bolter (CB), Michael Walden (MW), Bill Kendall (BK), Henry Swan (HS), and Garrett Stuck (GS). Member Janet Jones participated via speaker phone.

The meeting was called to order by Chair at 6:00 p.m. with GS named to serve as voting member.

Minutes: The October 4, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed. BK made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by HS; the motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

Treasurer's Report: None.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. Monitor's Reports: BK reported that the chimney reduction project at 2041 Main Road was done, with the chimney now four feet above the ridge line. Old brick was re-used for the work. At Weatherlow Farm, he indicated the foundation was still being prepped for the house move. HS reported that the three skylights had been installed at 2015 Main Road as per the plan.

**HEARINGS/REVIEWS**

6:10 p.m. Hearing: 2042 Main Rd. - proposal to raise the roof of the barn. William Underwood, representing the Long brothers in attendance, showed schematic plans of the existing building, a 20 by 36 foot one story garage with loft storage. He indicated that the family's proposal is to raise the entire roof three feet, move the existing window up approximately the same distance, and replace the existing trim work. The first floor of the structure would remain unchanged. Mr. Underwood noted that similar one and a half story outbuildings were common throughout the neighborhood. He further indicated that the application was being amended by adding two skylights on the north side of the roof; they would only be visible to the view from Rt. 88 and the river.

HS inquired if the renovations were intended to make the structure suitable as living space, and was told there were no such plans, as there was no heat and no insulation in the building. CB asked about the window trim, and was told it would be re-used or replaced like for like. GS voiced concerns about setting a precedent that might apply to potential applications to add a second story to residences. BK suggested that there would be no precedent, as each case is judged on its unique merits; he felt the plan would be appropriate for the neighborhood, making the structure look more like the carriage sheds of an earlier era.

MOTION by BK to approve the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness as amended with the addition of two skylights on the north side of the roof. Seconded by HS. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

6:15 p.m. Preliminary review of plans from the Westport Historical Society for the Bell School. Patrick Ryan and Joseph Booth of Booth & Associates were present to discuss preliminary plans for a proposed two story addition to the north side of the building, and related renovations in the stage area. The work would include a new rear entrance and the creation of office space behind the stage area; the addition would cover the same footprint as the existing structure. Clapboard siding and cedar roof shingles were specified materials to be used. WHS Director Jenny O'Neill indicated the proposed work is unrelated to

the foundation work that needs to be done. Mr. Booth noted the proposed addition would not really be visible from the road.

MOTION by BK to support the concept plan as presented. Second by HS. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

Preliminary review of a proposal from an Anderson Window Company representative to replace five double hung windows at 1814 Main Road with replacement window units. Four of the window units are visible from the road. The representative provided a sample of the Renewal Series inserts proposed, with fully composite exteriors, 6 over 6 composite dividers, and insulated glass. BK noted the proposed units have less glass area than the current sash; he pointed out that guidelines require antique windows to be replaced with exact duplicates, and showed the representative a photograph of the style required. GS asked if there was any possibility that the existing sash could be repaired or reconditioned, and was told there was not. RL noted that the house had been built as a replica of a 1700s home, and suggested that the window styles were important and need to be maintained. The Chair indicated that property owners should make alternate plans before applying for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

#### GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Certificates of Non-Applicability: None.

3. New Business: CB reported receipt of a letter from the Mass. Historical Commission announcing grant opportunities for the coming fiscal year. She also noted that the Commission has been asked to review and comment on plans for a rotary circle at the Rt. 177/Tickle Road intersection. After some discussion, it was decided there was no need to comment on the plans.

Adjournment: HS made a motion at 7:11 p.m. to adjourn the meeting; seconded by BS. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

Approved: 12/1/21