

Westport Historical Commission

Meeting of Nov. 4, 2019

Present: Chair Rud Lawrence (RL), Michael Walden (MW), Caroline Bolter (CB), Janet Jones (JJ), Henry Swan (HS), Beverly Schuch (BS).

1. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Chair Rud Lawrence with the above members present.
 2. Minutes: The minutes of the Oct. 7, 2019 meeting were reviewed. MW noted that he was present at that meeting but not listed among the attendees. HS made a motion to approve the minutes with an amendment to include MW among those present; seconded by MW, the motion passed 6-0.
 3. Treasurer's Report: GS being absent, there was no report presented.
 4. Monitor Reports: BS reported that the Steinberg project was well underway, beginning with additional internal supports and continuing with the planned exterior improvements. JJ noted that the Ferrari renovation/addition appears to have started, with a further report coming at the next meeting.
 5. Certificates of Non-Applicability: The receipt of a notice of the planned replacement of an exterior door by Chris Conway, 187C Drift Rd., was noted; as the door is not visible from the public ways, a Certificate of Non-Applicability was issued.
 6. Demolition Request: Eugene Roy, representing Robert Pozzo, owner of 406 Horseneck Road, is proposing to dismantle the circa 1820 post and beam house at that location and re-assemble it on a new location in Westport. He indicated it was not really a demolition waiver request, as all the pieces would be numbered and moved to a secure site, and probably be reconstructed at 33 Cahoon's Lane, Westport. RL indicated that a definite plan with a timeline needs to be presented before the commission could act on the request. HS wanted more details on how the disassembled structure would be stored, and was told the parts would be held in enclosed trailers; the roof is in poor condition and can't be saved, and exterior shingles would be stripped and disposed of, Mr. Roy indicated.
- HS also wanted some sense of Mr. Roy's experience in such matters, and was told that Mr. Roy has moved Elizabeth Meyer's house to a new location; HS asked for a letter from the contractor giving more details on that move. Mr. Roy said that no architectural changes are proposed, and he would seek to restore rather than replace the existing windows. He would take the top row of foundation stones to rebuild the house on the same footprint; and estimated it would take six months to dismantle and move the building. BS asked about other options, and was informed there had been no other interest in the structure since the July demolition hearing.
- HS made a motion to authorize the dismantling of the house and foundation, with those components to be stored indoors until Roy returns with a firm reconstruction plan. BS seconded the motion, which passed on a 4-1-1 vote with MW opposed and RL abstaining. HS made a motion to lift the demolition delay, seconded by CB. The vote was 4-1-1 in favor, with MW opposed and RL abstaining.
- BS made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.; seconded by HS, the vote was unanimous, 6-0.

Approved Date: 12/2/19