

**Westport Historical Commission
Virtual Meeting of Dec. 7, 2020
Google Meet (yns-jqan-hhq for all online meetings)**

Participating were Commission Chair Rud Lawrence (RL), voting members Henry Swan (HS), Caroline Bolter (CB), Michael Walden (MW), Bill Kendall (BK), Beverly Schuch (BS), and Garrett Stuck (GS); and alternate Kristi Agniel (KA). Guests included Erin O'Boyle, Allison Pell, David Carter.

1. The meeting was called to order by the chair at 6 p.m. with the above members participating.
2. Minutes: The Nov. 4, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed. CB made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by BK; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye.
3. Treasurer's Report: GS provided an update on accounts for the past month in a report dated 12-7-20. BS made a motion to accept the report, seconded by CB. The motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye.
4. Certificates of Appropriateness: 1871 Main Road, owned by Richard and Siobhan DiNatale, proposing to replace the front door on the east side with a new wooden door, and to replace the side door on the east side with a fiberglass door; continued from Nov. 4. The commission reviewed specifications for the new doors proposed, with BK suggesting they are appropriate for the age of the house and architectural style. Mr. DiNatale joined the discussion of the repair plans, then BK made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, seconded by HS. The motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye. MW and GS volunteered to serve as the monitors.

In light of the continuing pandemic, CB was authorized by general consent to sign all certificates on behalf of the commission.

1874 Main Road, owners Ben and Allison Pell, proposing to install a stainless steel cap atop the chimney. After reviewing the plans, BK made a motion to approve the certificate, seconded by BS; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye. MW and GS volunteered to serve as the monitors.

11 Valentine Lane, Erin O'Boyle owner, represented by architect Gregory Newell, proposing to relocate three existing windows to accommodate renovations for a new kitchen and bath. Ms. O'Boyle noted that the nearest neighbors were in support of the changes proposed. BS made a motion to approve the certificate. After reviewing the plans, BS made a motion to approve the certificate, seconded by CB; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye, JJ aye, BK aye, BS aye, HS aye, MW aye, KA aye (RL having lost the internet connection to the meeting for a minute or two, KA was temporarily activated to voting list). BS and MW volunteered to serve as the monitors.

2041 Main Road, Susan Carter Peck and David Carter, proposing to replace windows and reduce the height of the ell chimney, damaged at the top; house designer Susan Horwitz also participated in the hearing. CB cited a 2017 letter from the commission, referencing notes on proposed work by former commissioner Geraldine Milham. Ms. Peck noted there was no formal application filed in 2017, only advice sought from the commission; the recommendations made by Mrs. Milham were followed for the plans for the proposed work. Ms. Horwitz provided details on the window replacements, and proposed

to use the old bricks for the chimney repairs, if there was enough material; if insufficient old brick, the height of the chimney would be reduced. The owner indicated the chimney was only ornamental, and is not used. BK asked for close-up photographs of the existing chimney before the repairs are undertaken; the owners agreed to return to the commission with samples of mortar to be used and new bricks if replacement material is needed. A motion to approve the certificate, allowing the chimney to be lowered by two-thirds of present height was made but not seconded; considerable discussion on chimney height and materials followed. BK made a motion to approve the certificate, encouraging re-use of old brick and no more than 50 percent reduction of chimney height; sample brick and mortar to be provided to the commission if new brick is needed. Seconded by BS, the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye. BS and BK volunteered to be the monitors.

GENERAL BUSINESS

5. Monitor's Reports: BK noted that he and the chair had met with the building inspector to discuss the Ferrari project, 1881 Main Road, as the work was not completed as approved. HS made a motion to modify the approved plans to show the as-built features, seconded by BK; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye.

GS indicated that the Brewer shower installation (1994 Main Rd.) had been installed as detailed in the approved plans.

6. Certificates of Non-Applicability: None.

7. New Business: BS asked fellow members for feedback on the "renovation" work recently completed at the Kirby Brook bridge on Main Road, which uncovered much of the stone bridgework. She suggested the unpainted steel guard rails installed look awful, and some remediation should be done; there was general agreement. MW asked if the commission has any jurisdiction over renovations to historic bridges, which will be investigated.

The chair noted that the Westport Gravestone Cleaning Group was seeking support for its application for Community Preservation Act funding to continue its work. BS made a motion for a resolution to support the activity and the application, seconded by CB; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye.

The clerk was asked to provide a new list of meeting dates for 2021, and distribute an updated member list to all the commissioners.

8. Adjournment: With no other business on the agenda, BK made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by CB and passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye; GS aye.