

**Westport Historical Commission**  
**Meeting of May 2, 2022**  
At Westport Town Hall

Voting members present: Chair Rud Lawrence (RL), Bill Kendall (BK), Kristi Agniel (KA), Caroline Bolter (CB), Garrett Stuck (GS), Henry Swan (HS). Also present, recording clerk Robert Barboza.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 p.m. with the above Commission members present; alternate Krsiti Agniel was designated a voting member.

**MOTION** by BK to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2022 meeting as presented. Second by CB. The motion passed on a 5-0-1 vote, with KA abstained as she was not present.

**Preliminary Discussion – 1280 Drift Road.** Architect Chris Cody was in attendance, representing the owners, who were also present. It was noted that the property is on the town's inventory of historic buildings, but was not located in the Historic District. Mr. Cody indicated that the owners had originally planned to restore the building, but a close inspection suggested it was in too poor condition to be saved. The owners are now proposing to demolish the building and construct a new house reflecting the spirit of the old structure, but with improved accessibility and amenities. Exterior photos of the existing building were provided for Commission review. BK noted that the demolition delay regulations were meant to be applied to architecturally significant buildings, and this structure was not significant in any way. HS asked about potential renovation costs, and was told they were \$150,000 higher than the projected \$1.3 million cost of the proposed new house. GS noted the proposed six sliding glass doors lacked the divided lights of the current cottage, and suggested that divided light doors should be used instead to tone down the modern exterior appearance. The architect and owners seemed agreeable to making some minor alterations to the exterior architecture such as windows.

**MOTION** by BK to approve the demolition request for 1280 Drift Road. Second by HS. The motion passed on a 5-1 vote, with GS opposed.

**6:10 p.m. Hearing: Sally Hardy, 2019 Main Road, proposing to replace three garage doors.** Ms. Hardy told the Commission that the existing wooden doors were installed when the house was built in the 1940s; they are now rotting and breaking down. She proposed to replace the two large doors with a composite door with wood grain appearance, in a similar style as the existing doors. These three doors are visible from Main Road; a third smaller door in the back of the garage is visible from the river; she proposed replacing that with a steel door. Unidentified abutters were supportive of the plans, noting the front doors were about 150 feet from the road, and the rear door even further from the river.

**MOTION** by HS to approve the plans for three replacement garage doors as submitted. Second by GS. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote. HS and GS volunteered to serve as monitors for the project.

**Grist Mill Update:** GS reported he is still collecting information on the mill's history, and studying potential updates to the MACRIS file for the property. The 30-year deed restriction was filed on Feb. 5, 2018.

**General Business**

1. Monitor's Reports: CB reported that the roof-raising is underway at 2044 Main Road; the replacement of garage doors at 1936 Main Road has been completed. BK reported that the owners of 1818 Main Road have decided to use a Pella window product for the barn project. He noted that the

house move at Weatherlow Farm did not take place; the house was raised to install a granite foundation underneath, and a small addition was constructed. GS reported that the oyster shack project at 2065 Main Road has been completed. He also noted that the re-siding work at 1868 Main Road is now underway.

2. Applications for Certificates of Non-Applicability: CB reported certificates issued for 1874 Main Road, where the owners were installing an outdoor shower not visible from the road; and for the roof and gutter replacement for a historic home at 652 Old Harbor Road, outside the Commission's jurisdiction.

3. New Business: RL said he attended a recent site visit by Select Board members and the Town Administrator to the historic bridge on Drift Road, where a guard rail installation is being reviewed and alterations in its appearance being considered. The bridge issue raised the question of whether the Commission should be on a "review list" of parties reviewing the town's Chapter 90 road projects. There was general agreement that the Commission should review any road projects near historic sites.

The Chair indicated that the Commission needs to appoint a new representative to the Community Preservation Commission. GS volunteered to serve, and said he would apply to the Select Board for appointment as the Historical Commission delegate.

The Chair also noted that CPC Chair Betty Slade would like to meet with the Commission to discuss the Westport Point terminus of Main Road be added to the town's inventory of historic sites.

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. by HS. Seconded by BK. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote.