

**Westport Historical Commission**  
**Virtual Meeting of June 7, 2021**  
**Google Meet (yws-jqan-hhq for all online meetings)**

Participating were Commission Chair Rud Lawrence (RL) and members Caroline Bolter (CB), Michael Walden (MW), Bill Kendall (BK), Janet Jones (JJ), Beverly Schuch (BS), Henry Swan (HS), and alternate Garrett Stuck (GS).

The meeting was called to order by Chair at 6:00 p.m. with the above members participating.

Minutes: The May 3, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed. GS proposed an amendment to discussion on 2004 Main Road reading: "After reiterating his claim that the building could not be saved, Dr. Cohen requested a straw poll to see whether the applicants might be allowed to demolish the existing building. Some committee members said yes, some said no, and others said yes, but that every effort should be made to save as much of the building as possible." This will replace deleted text: "On a straw poll of the demolition question, only two members were strongly opposed; most would support demolition if some important architectural elements were saved and re-used in a new structure." Seconded by JJ; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; JJ aye; BK aye; RL aye; BS aye; HS aye; MW aye. General Business: Treasurer's Report: None. The Chair noted that the commission's next meeting (July 5) will be held in person at Town Hall.

1. Monitor's Reports: HS reported on the installation of windows at 2037 Main Road had been completed, having sent photos and specs of the windows to members. He said the work looks good; and GS agreed.

MW reported making a second visit to 1871 Main Road, and found all in order, with work proceeding as shown in the approved plans.

2. Certificates of Non-Applicability: None

3. New Business: None.

6:05 p.m. Public Hearing: 1985A Main Road – new dormer, windows, and door – garage: new south dormer, windows, and door. Owner's representative Ashley Sparks reviewed the details of the proposed work, noting the buildings are not visible from Main Road, and only "barely visible" from the river. BS noted the house was built in the 1950s and is not an historic structure; CB asked why the sidelights had been removed, and was told they may be replaced. HS said he visited the site, and so no problems with the proposed work. HS made a motion to approve the plans as shown, seconded by CB; the motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote. CB aye; JJ aye; BK aye; RL aye; HS aye; BS aye; MW aye. Monitors – HS, BS.

6:15 p.m. Public Hearing: 1913 Drift Road – new cinderblock foundation for garage. Melissa and Russell Baker ([russellbaker@comcast.net](mailto:russellbaker@comcast.net)) spoke for the applicant, indicating plans were to repair the lower edge of the circa 1969 detached garage and extend and repair the cinderblock foundation. BK made a motion to approve the plans as submitted, seconded by HS. The motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote. Monitors: CB, JJ.

6:25 p.m. Public Hearing: 863 Sodom Road. Matthew MacEachern ([mattemeritusdevelopment.com](http://mattemeritusdevelopment.com)), representing owner Ryan Wagener, reviewed revised plans to pick up, rotate, and re-set the house on a new foundation. The revisions dealt with the cut granite foundation blocks to be reused for the new foundation. BK made a motion to approve the revised plans, seconded by JJ. The motion passed on a 7-0 roll call vote. Monitors: BK, GS.

8. Adjournment: With no other business on the agenda, CB made a motion at 6:28 p.m. to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by HS and passed on a 7-0 roll call vote – CB aye; JJ aye; BK aye; RL aye; HS aye; BS aye; MW aye.

Approved: