

**Westport Historical Commission
July 10, 2023 Meeting
at Town Hall Annex**

Present were Commission Chair Rud Lawrence (RL), members Caroline Bolter (CB), Bill Kendall (BK), Beverly Schuch (BS), Michael Walden (MW), and Deborah Ciolfi (DC).

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6 p.m. with the above members present. The Chair announced a clarification of last month's vote on a Certificate of Appropriateness for 2038 Main Road, indicating there was a mistaken vote count of 4-1 in favor. He indicated that the vote was 3-2 in favor, so the application was technically denied for failing to reach the required four votes for approval. When the applicants were notified of the denial, they opted not to re-apply, instead indicating that they will seek to appeal the Commission ruling in court.

In response to a report that the historic home at 1280 Drift Road had been improperly demolished, the Chair noted that the demolition request had been approved by the Historical Commission after the building was deemed to have no historical significance. BK noted that the Building Inspector has done a good job of notifying the Commission whenever plans for altering or demolishing historic homes have been filed, in order that the Commission can visit the sites.

2. Minutes: The June 12, 2023 meeting minutes were reviewed. **MOTION** by BK to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by CB; the motion passed on a 6-0 vote.

3. Treasurer's Report: None.

6:05 p.m. Certificate of Appropriateness – Application for 7 Windward Way, for construction of a new two-car garage. Architect Christopher Wise told the Commission that previously-approved plans for the addition of a new garage on the property have been deemed not feasible because of site conditions, and a new plan has been filed proposing a stand-alone two-car garage, one and a half stories tall, to be built with traditional materials, Pella Lifestyle windows, and cedar shingle siding. The building site is 67 feet from the main house; the existing attached garage will remain in use. On the question of visibility from public ways, an audience member noted that the proposed garage might be visible from the river, which is considered a public way. The Chair and CB indicated that trees or vegetation would obscure views from public ways. BK suggested that the proposed appearance of the garage would be compatible with other outbuildings in the neighborhood. **MOTION** by BK to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 7 Windward Way based on the new plans presented. Second by BS. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote. No monitors were named.

6:10 p.m. Certificate of Appropriateness – 1945 Main Road, for the replacement of the gutter, fascia and soffit on the East side of the house. Commission member Caroline Bolter recused herself from voting on the matter, and reviewed the plans to replace the existing gutter with a G6 fiberglass gutter and copper downspouts, and replace the fascia and soffit boards with PVC boards to replicate the existing materials. **MOTION** by BS to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 1945 Main Road based on the plans presented. Second by DC. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote, with CB recused. BS and DC volunteered to serve as monitors.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Monitor's Reports: None.

2. Applications for Certificates of Non-Applicability: CB reported that an application from Richard Earl for a gutter replacement had been denied, and he would be applying for a Certificate of Appropriateness to be considered at the next meeting.

3. New Business: CB indicated that the owners of 5 Windward Way were submitting plans for a solar panel installation, to be considered at the next meeting. A member of the audience asked if DC was a full member or alternate member of the Commission; she was advised that DC was serving as a full member.

4. Adjournment: **MOTION** by BK to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by MW and passed on a 6-0 vote.

Approval Date: 8/7/23