

## **Westport Historical Commission**

Meeting of Sept. 9, 2019

Chair Rud Lawrence opened the meeting in the basement meeting room at Town Hall at 6 p.m. and read a public notice that the meeting was being recorded.

**Present:** Members Rud Lawrence (RL), Henry Swan (HS), Caroline Bolter (CB), Bill Kendall (BK), Beverly Schuch (BS) and alternate Garrett Stuck (GS) serving as sixth voting member.

**Others In Attendance:** David Carter, Shirley Carter, Sue Horwitz of JPS Construction & Design, Pam Carter, Skip Carter, Steve Ferrari, Linda Coughlin, Bill Parden, Kristen and Jack Williamson of Westport Point Methodist Church, Kathleen Grimley, Bill Searles, Huxley Conklin, Vicki Schofield.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the Aug. 5, 2019 meeting were reviewed, and HS made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by BK; the vote was 6-0 in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** GS presented a treasurer's report dated 9-09-2019 indicating the balances in various accounts. CB made a motion to accept the report, seconded by BS; the vote was 6-0 in favor.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. **Monitor's Reports:** No reports.

2. **Certificates of Non-Applicability:** CB reported that Jane Loos, 1893 Main Road, proposed to reshingle the garage, and re-paint trim; all like for like, no action required.

3. **General Discussion:** There was a brief discussion of the historic sign replacement policy; it was noted that residents could apply for a replacement sign on the Historical Commission page on the town website, at a cost of \$50.00.

4. **6:05 Public Hearing:** 1881 Main Road owner Steven Ferrari was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for revised plans for a two-story addition of 400 square feet per floor, for a total of 800 square feet, and two new decks. He also indicated that an existing barn on the property would be moved to a new location. Changes from preliminary reviews of plans included a 1.5 foot reduction in the height of the ridge line and revised return soffits. BK asked about specifications for new windows, and was advised that two over two sash to match the existing windows are planned; different kitchen windows are proposed as well. BK described the house as a fine example of Greek Revival/Victorian architecture in pristine condition, and suggested additional changes to the roof line to better preserve the architectural look.

There was considerable discussion of possible changes to the floor plan; Mr. Ferrari stressed that he is not seeking to change the original structure's character. Most of the "modern" changes would be in the rear of the structure, and not visible from public ways, he indicated. An informal poll of the members suggested that most were in favor of the owner consulting his architect and considering additional changes to the plans. The owner indicated he would not be willing to make further revisions. There was no comment from abutters. BK made a motion to deny the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, seconded by GS; the vote was 4-1-1 in favor of denial, with HS opposed and RL abstaining.

**5. Public Hearing:** 2041 Main Road, Susanne Carter Peck and David and Lynn Carter, seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for proposed exterior work to an early 1900s addition. Carter Peck said the owners proposed replacement of windows with new Andersen Woodwright Series True Lite sash (6 over 6), new shingles to match the main house, and new paint on wood trim to match the existing color. A small addition and stairs to grade are also proposed for the south west corner of the structure. Sue Horwitz, representative of the contractor, JPS Construction & Design, indicated that the revised plans for the addition, in poor condition, had been scaled back a bit from the preliminary review. HS reported that the addition can easily be seen from the river, considered a public way; BK suggested divided lights on the new door. There was no comment from any abutters. BS made a motion to approve the certificate, with a requirement for divided lights in the door; seconded by BK, the vote was 6-0 in favor. BS and GS were appointed monitors for the project.

**6. Public Hearing:** 1835 Main Road, Westport Point Methodist Church, proposal to repair east chimney, remove west chimney, and repair roof of parsonage. Church representative Kristin Williamson provided a sample of proposed brick and mortar for the project, and BK suggested that a lighter colored mortar be used to match existing lime mortar; he also recommended that the west chimney not be removed as it is part of the original structure of the building. HS said he had no problem with the chimney removal, as many other Greek Revival buildings at the Point only have one chimney left, and repair would present a financial hardship for the church. Ms. Williamson agreed it would be a hardship, indicating there would be a \$3,000 additional cost for the second chimney's repair. There was no input from abutters. CB made a motion to approve the application with plans as presented, seconded by HS; the vote was 4-1-1 in favor, with BK opposed and RL abstaining. HS and BS were appointed as monitors for the project.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no other business on the agenda, BK made a motion to adjourn at 7:15 p.m., seconded by HS. The vote was unanimous, 6-0, in favor.

Approved: 10/7/2019