

Town of Suffield Historic District Commission

Minutes of Meeting - June 2, 2014 First Floor meeting Room - Suffield Town Hall 7:30 P.M.

Present: David Bahlman, Skip Edmonds, Scott MacClintic, Margery Warren
John Schwemmer

Absent: Brendan Begley, Doug Mayne

David Bahlman called the meeting to order at 7:30, and reviewed the agenda. he indicated that he would like to add to the agenda a discussion of the recommendations that the new Town Clerk, George Beiter, has sent to all members of Suffield boards and commissions regarding meeting notices, meeting agendas and meeting minutes. John Schwemmer made a motion to add the issue to the agenda as item #6. Seconded by Scott MacClintic. Passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 5. 2014 Meeting:

Margery Warren made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 5th meeting. Seconded by Scott MacClintic. Passed unanimously.

Agenda Items to Consider Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness:

225 S. Main Street: Proposed window replacements

No one was present to speak on behalf of the project.

Erin Golembiewski, owner of 225 South Main, attended the May 5th meeting of the Historic District Commission to receive an informal opinion from the Commission on her plan to reconfigure one window and replace another.

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Ms. Golembiewski's C of A Application for this project was submitted on April 30, 2014, less than 10 days before the meeting and too late for the issue to be placed on the May 5th agenda. The Commission offered its opinion at the May 5th meeting that the project did not meet the standards set by the Town of Suffield for historic structures. It was suggested to Ms. Golembiewski that she reappear at the June 2nd meeting with a revised scheme that would be acceptable to the Commission.

Without the applicant present at its June 2nd meeting, it was impossible for the Commission to know if the applicant had revised the project.

As the Historic District Commission has, by ordinance, only 60 days from the submission of the C of A application to act, and as the 60 days will expire before the Commission's next meeting on July 7th, a motion was made by Skip Edmonds to deny the existing C of A application. Seconded by Scott MacClintic. Passed unanimously.

1305 Hill Street: Placement of 20 Solar Panels on the Front and Side Roof of the Structure.

As no representative of the project was present at the meeting, it was agreed that the item should be postponed to the next meeting of the Commission on July 7th.

967 Hill Street: Installation of a Two-Rail Split Fence

Present to speak on behalf of the project were Diane Tapp of Encore Landscaping and Mike Fitzgerald, owner of the property. A site plan was presented, which showed the location of the fence along the entire frontage of the property. Photos of several existing sections of the old two rail split fence were also presented. The new fence will duplicate the appearance of the old fence, except for the addition of four angled "notches", each made up of two fence sections to provide recessed triangular areas for the planting of evergreen shrubs. The new fence will have locust wood posts and hardwood rails. As the old fence was on the town-owned border of the property

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running along the road, the new fence will be relocated one foot behind the owner's property line. Scott MacClintic made a motion to approve the C of A for this project. Seconded by Margery Warren. Passed unanimously.

Update on Certified Local Government Grant Application:

David Bahlman presented the project narrative, a major component for the application. The application to the Historic Preservation Office of the State of Connecticut (SHPO) for this grant was approved by the Suffield Board of Finance on May 12, 2014 and by the Suffield Board of Supervisors on May 21, 2014. Other pieces of the application have been submitted to the First Selectman's office for signature, and the application will be delivered to the SHPO by the deadline of June 10, 2014.

Discussion followed about the need for effective internet links and applications for public access on the Town of Suffield's website after the grant is awarded and the survey completed.

Presentation of the Town Clerk's Recommendations for Meeting Notices, Agendas and Minutes:

George Beiter, the new Town Clerk, has supplied all Suffield Boards and Commissions with templates for meeting notices, agendas and minutes in order to bring these elements into consistent compliance with standard municipal requirements. John Schwemmer moved to adopt these recommended template for the Suffield Historic District Commission. Seconded by Margery Warren. Passed unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn:

John Schwemmer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Skip Edmonds. Passed unanimously.

