

Middle Haddam Historic District Commission

Regular Meeting

Thursday, September 22, 2022

6:30 P.M.

Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room #201 & Via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Chairman Charles Roberts, Regina Starolis, Christopher Dart, Peter Pach, and Casey Donnelly.

Absent: Melissa Briere, Kara Pedersen, and Patrick Walsh.

Call to Order: Presiding Chairman Charles Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M.

Roll Call/ Seating of Alternates: Roll call was taken. Present was Chairman Charles Roberts, Casey Donnelly, Regina Starolis, Christopher Dart, and Peter Pach. Ms. Donnelly and Mr. Pach were both seated as alternates by Chairman Roberts.

Public Remarks: None

Public Hearing:

- a) **Application 573 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 57 Middle Haddam Road - to redo the stonework on the wall in front of the house and rebuild the stone walkway to the front and side doors - for applicant George Selmont.:** Mr. Selmont joined the meeting via zoom to present to the commission members. There is a concrete slab with three steps down to a concrete walkway on the front of the house. The applicant wants to eliminate the steps and handrails from the house. The plan would be to excavate three feet back to provide some walking space. The existing stone wall would be pushed back to become aligned with the stone wall on the neighbor's property. Regrade where the stone wall is located to keep the land sloping away from the house. The stone slabs on the side of the house will be repurposed as steps for the side door access. The plant boxes on the sides of the house will have the walls rebuilt with rocks found on the property. The plant box on the right side of the house has a mortared wall that faces the road but isn't visible from the street. The stone walls for the planters will be dry stacked. There is an existing well head on the property. It is poured cast concrete, but there will be a stone veneer laid over the sides. A metal grate with a wooden board would go over the opening for safety. There is a dry stream bed on the property. The dry stream would be excavated a bit and have stone slabs on the sides to emphasize and create the stream bed. The driveway egress will not be changed. It was suggested to check with a land survey of the property to ensure where the property starts and the town property from the street starts. Another suggestion was to find any rocks remaining from the old chimney on the property. Compressed material would be added under the dry stacked stone walls to push

the stones up and make them more pronounced. *A motion was made by Mr. Pach, seconded by Ms. Starolis, to approve of Application 573 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 57 Middle Haddam Road as submitted. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Approval of Minutes and Motions:

- b) April 28, 2022:** The minutes were tabled for next month's meeting.
- c) June 16, 2022:** The minutes were tabled for next month's meeting.
- d) July 28, 2022:** The minutes were tabled for next month's meeting.

Correspondence: None

Reports: None

New Business: There is a bulletin board in the post office for the commission to post flyers and information for the public to read. The members decided to post the application form to the bulletin board to gain more applicants. The members discussed what information like phone numbers and emails to add on the board. This could help to familiarize the public with and gives a way to contact the commission members. The phone numbers and emails that were decided upon will be added to the board. It was suggested to drop off the fence book to Ms. Schaffer for a point of reference on her privacy fences. The official 'Entering Historic District' sign was posted on the side of the Global Storage building. The members discussed how improper that is to post the sign on the building. Mr. Rand will be contacted to discuss taking the sign down.

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Mr. Dart, seconded by Mr. Pach, to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 P.M. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk