

**Middle Haddam Historic District Commission**

**Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, April 27, 2023**

**6:30 P.M.**

**Town Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Meeting Room #201**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Chairman Charles Roberts, Kara Pedersen, Casey Donnelly, and Peter Pach

**Absent:** Patrick Walsh, Christopher Dart, and Regina Starolis

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

**Roll Call/ Seating of Alternates:** Roll call was taken. Present was Chairman Roberts and Kara Pedersen. Casey Donnelly and Peter Pach were seated as alternate members.

**Public Remarks:** None

**Public Hearing:**

- a) **Application 579 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 91 Middle Haddam Road- to install a 6 foot cedar wood perimeter privacy-style fence- for applicant Judith A. Keefe:** Ms. Keefe attended the meeting to present and answer questions from the members. The applicant already installed the privacy fence on the property. The fence was going to be white vinyl, but was changed to cedar wood to comply with the regulations in the Historic District. The fence would enable the applicant to keep her dogs safe in the yard. It would also help to block out the neighboring dog from instigating her dogs. Ms. Keefe stated that she didn't know she had to come before the commission to obtain approval to install the fence in the first place. The Chairman talked to Ms. Keefe about her plans for the fence before the installation. In that time, Chairman Roberts informed the applicant that she would need to go before the commission to obtain approve for installing the fence. The applicant stated that she couldn't wait for the next monthly meeting. The following week the fence was being installed on the property. Doug MacKeown of Keighley Pond Road thanked the members for what they do on the commission and wanted to remind the members of the town's history. There was a fence installed on the Christ Church property without approval from the commission. The Town was involved and made the property owner take the fence down. *A motion was made by Ms. Donnelly, seconded by Ms. Pedersen, to approve of application 578/ 579 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 91 Middle Haddam Road to install a 6 foot cedar wood perimeter privacy-style fence as submitted. Voted 1-3 with Chairman Roberts, Ms. Donnelly, and Mr. Pach opposing.*

**Approval of Minutes- March 23, 2023:** *A motion was made by Ms. Pedersen, seconded by Ms. Donnelly, to approve of the March 23, 2023 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

**Correspondence:** There was no update for this item.

**Reports:** None

**Old Business:** The Chairman drafted a flyer about the commission to hang up around town. It would also be hung up at the post office in town. It was suggested to put the flyer in the PO boxes as well.

**New Business:** Mary Jo Shafer and another homeowner fixed their driveways and walkways on their properties. The members discussed how to proceed when the residents of the Historic District perform unsanctioned work. A local house flipper called Chairman Roberts about putting up a garage on the property next to Mr. Pach. An email was sent from a resident on Long Hill that another lot was sold. The members discussed the residential lots and the corresponding house styles. The contractor may use a different house style but would need to come before the commission for approval before being constructed. It was also pointed out that there can't be two style of houses next to each other. Ms. Donnelly's neighbors are planning on installing a pool in their back yard. They plan to go before the commission to obtain approval for the installation. There would be shrubs planted around the pool and mechanical to conceal it from view. The pool wouldn't be seen from the street, but the possible patio would be partially visible.

**Adjournment:** *A motion was made by Ms. Donnelly, seconded by Mr. Pach, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 P.M. Voted 4-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk