

Middle Haddam Historic District Commission

Special Meeting

Thursday, September 7, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room #201 and via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Chairman Charles Roberts, Patrick Walsh, Casey Donnelly, Kara Pedersen, and Peter Pach.

Absent: Christopher Dart and Melissa Briere.

Call to Order: Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Roll Call/ Seating of Alternates: Roll call was taken. Present was Chairman Roberts, Patrick Walsh, Kara Pedersen, and Peter Pach. Casey Donnelly was seated as an alternate member.

Public Hearing:

- a) **Application 584 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 72 Middle Haddam Road, Middle Haddam to replace garage siding with composite clapboard siding for applicant Cathy Ann Clark:** Ms. Clark and Ms. Martino, from Better Home Improvements, attended the meeting to present and answer the member's questions. Ms. Martino looked into a wood material option for the applicant. Samples of the two wood options were brought for the commission members. The composite material is made of ground up stone and a strong acrylic polymer. The wood underlayment on the garage has some rotting sections that will be addressed. The garage doors are wood as well. There are different types of tongue and groove wooden siding. The vertical composite siding is the favorable option than the wood siding to the applicant. Ms. Clark stated that she would rather leave the siding on the garage alone if the wood material is the only option she can use. The members discussed the possible precedent this application would cause if the composite material was approved. The members want to stay consistent with the approvals of what composite materials could be used and where on the property it would be used. *A motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Pedersen, to approve of application 584 as presented with Board and Batton composite material made of ground stone and acrylic as applicant's preferred choice of siding. Voted 2-3 with Mr. Roberts, Mr. Pach, and Ms. Donnelly opposed.*
- b) **Application 585 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 91 Middle Haddam Road, Middle Haddam to mitigate the visual impact of the visible portions of the side yard fences that were recently installed for applicant Judith Keefe:** The applicant didn't attend the meeting. The 65 days are not up. Next monthly meeting will be a week before the end of the 65 days.

- c) **Application 587 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 49 Middle Haddam Road, Middle Haddam installation of a 24' above ground pool with deck for applicant William Hanna:** Mr. Hannah attended the meeting to present and answer questions. The applicant had already started work on disguising the deck and pool from view. A rock wall and rock steps were constructed from slabs of blue stone. The rock wall shades the deck and pool, while the steps lead up to the pool and deck. The deck is made of pressure treated wood and has no railings. It is also at grass level, so hiding it would be easier than raised decks. The members stated that it would be preferable if the rock wall surrounded the pool and deck completely. There needs a fully conceptualized drawing or diagram of the plan for shading or covering the deck and pool from sight. It was also strongly suggested that the applicant stop working on the project until after obtaining approval from the commission. Railings will need to be added to the deck. Also, a historically accurate fence would need to go around the pool as well. *A motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Ms. Pedersen, to table the application for the regular meeting on the 28th pending the drawings or plans provided to members from the applicant. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Adjournment: *A motion was made by Ms. Pedersen, seconded by Ms. Donnelly, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Voted 5-0 in favor.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata

Recording Clerk