HISTORIC DISTRICT & HISTORIC PROPERTY COMMISSION

Jonathan Foltz, Chairman Kevin Quinlan, Vice Chairman Colleen Fawcett, Clerk Matthew Kehoe Helen Whitten

Alternates
Harriet "Scotty" Taylor
Allison Sanders



TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, Connecticut 06897

Tuesday June 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes, Old Town Hall 7:30PM

- I. The Regular meeting was called to order at 7:34 by Vice-chair Quinlan, with
 Commissioners Kehoe, Whitten, Fawcett and Alternate Commissioner Sanders seated.
 With no members of the public in attendance for the public hearing regarding COA for 27
 Redding Road, regular business was attended to first.
 - A. Motion was made by Quinlan to accept May meeting minutes as written, Kehoe seconded, motion passed.
 - B. Vacant Commission seat remains in process
 - C. There was no objection to the Horseshoe Rd request Commissioner Whitten visited and did a visual inspection noting no historical value.
 - D. Commissioner Sanders will work on a practical piece of literature for property owners regarding what work/repairs/additions/improvements require COA and what does not. There being more residential properties located in Historic Districts the Commission

believes that pro-active outreach/information could be beneficial to homeowners.

Fawcett suggested a mailing to property owners in districts once completed.

II. Chairman Foltz arrived at 7:50 and opened the public hearing on COA for 27 Redding Road,
Fawcett property. Commissioner Fawcett recused herself due to conflict of interest. There were no

members of the public in attendance.

Commissioners had visited the site in the month prior to view from the public right of way and made suggestions. With Commission feedback from the site visit Fawcett outlined plans for an enclosed vegetable garden and repair/structural modifications of a cupola. The cupola plan is to modestly raise the structure in height so that it can be used as a garden shed, improve the stability, and repair rot to stabilize the structure. The structure had been salvaged by a previous owner of 27 Redding Rd and came from an antique Victorian-style home that has since been torn down. The vegetable garden is proposed to be enclosed by a stone retaining wall and fencing will be high enough to deter deer, in the style used in a garden at Weir Farm. Raised beds on the interior of the garden will be made from milled wood on the property. Permission is also sought for parking for a home office. Fawcett shared a survey of the property indicating where clients will be able to park in the existing drive. Fawcett indicated that she checked with all town regulations regarding a home office and they are within the perimeters outlined on the town website. Fawcett has a private psychotherapy practice with no employees, and no more than two client vehicles being on site at time.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:05PM – with Fawcett offering to leave the room so that the Commission could discuss freely.

After discussion of the materials, lay of the land, public view from right of way the Commission determined to approve the COA unanimously.

III. New Business:

A. Discussion was held on:

- Process of demolition ordinance – the demolition delay ordinance can not prevent a demolition, at most it can delay by 90 days in order to find someone willing to save or salvage parts of a structure with owners permission. Commissioners felt that the current process doesn't get in the way of salvaging (permit to demo can be received and building a new structure can begin prior to the demolition) unless the lay of the land and the new structure would preclude someone from accessing the historic

structure. It was noted that displaying prominently the intent to demolish sign is important.

B. There being no further new business, meeting was adjourned at 8:21PM.

Summer recess, next meeting is Tuesday, October 8 at 7:30 PM at Town Hall, unless there is business to attend to over the summer.