

**HISTORIC DISTRICT &  
HISTORIC PROPERTY  
COMMISSION**

Allison Sanders, Chair  
Lisa Pojano, Vice Chair  
Gilbert Weatherly, Clerk  
Lori Fusco  
Marianne Gustafson

*Alternates*  
Pam Brown  
Debbie Fink  
Peter Gaboriault



**TOWN HALL**  
238 Danbury Road  
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
TOWN OF WILTON  
2019 APR -5 A 10:55  
BY K

**Meeting Minutes  
April 2, 2019  
Town Hall Annex 7:30 pm**

- I. Call to order: 7:30 pm
  - a. Attendance: Commissioners Sanders and Weatherly attending. Alternates Brown and Gaboriault seated.
  - b. Minutes: March 5 minutes presented for discussion. Motion to approve by Gaboriault, and seconded by Sanders. Sanders, Weatherly and Gaboriault vote to approve. Brown abstains.
- II. CT Senate Proposed Bill #1107 Section 2: Chair discusses with Commissioners a draft of a statement letter to members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee expressing opposition to Bill #1107 Section 2. Motion to approve the draft and send it to the Committee by Gaboriault and seconded by Brown. Vote to approve is unanimous. Statement letter as follows.

**OPPOSITION to Section 2 of Senate Bill 1107**

**TO:** The Hon. Daniel J. Fox, Co-Chair, The Hon. Mae Flexer, Co-Chair, The Hon. Will Haskell, Vice Chair, The Hon. Michael Winkler, Vice Chair, the Hon. Rob Sampson, Ranking Member, the Hon. Mike France, Ranking Member and the members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee

**FROM:** Historic District and Historic Properties Commission, Wilton

**DATE:** April 2, 2019

RE: AN ACT CONCERNING THE TERMS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
CONNECTICUT TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND CONSTRUCTION  
INVOLVING HISTORIC STRUCTURES

The Wilton Historic District and Historic Properties Committee is opposed to Section 2 of Senate Bill 1107 and urges the Members of the Committee on Planning and Development to reject it.

The proposed legislation is an unnecessary act of over-reach by the state. Localities are much better judges of which structures are locally important. It is an alarming example of the kind of thoughtless "one size fits all" approach that will further erode the few protections available to locally important historic structures.

In Wilton, continued development of the Route 7 corridor has drastically altered the streetscape, destroying much of the distinctive character so many residents have moved here to enjoy. Tourism will suffer as well, if Connecticut's historic past is allowed to be demolished piece by piece.

Specifically, this bill will:

- reverse decades of work that preservationists have accomplished to make the preservation of historic resources an important tool in reinvigorating our communities;
- allow the state to unfairly sanction the demolition of historic structures that local municipalities have identified as important and meaningful to their community;
- set up a system of "demolition by neglect" where historic buildings will be allowed to decay to the point of destruction, increasing blight in neighborhoods and decreasing property values and local tax revenues
- allow indiscriminate destruction of historic assets; and
- set a dangerous precedent and expose the Connecticut Environmental Protection Act to future disastrous amendments.

Sincerely,  
Allison Gray Sanders, Chair

- III. Update on Watch List properties: Current status was discussed.
- IV. HDC Rules regarding Alternates – Gustafson, Pojano: Item was tabled for the next regular meeting.
- III. POCD: Chair reviews current status.
- IV. HDC Website Update: Photos of Historic Registered buildings to be included in HDPC website.

V. Public Comment: None

VI. Chair determines that May 7 meeting will be cancelled due to conflict with the Annual Town Meeting. Next meeting will be June 4, 2019, unless a Special Meeting is needed.

VII. Adjournment: 8:00 pm

Watch List: 300 Danbury Road, 213 Danbury Road, 198/200 Danbury Road, 523 Danbury Road