VILLAGE DISTRICT CONSULTANT COMMITTEE

Telephone (203) 563-0185 Fax (203) 563-0284 www.wiltonct.org



TOWN HALL ANNEX 238 Danbury Road Wilton, Connecticut 06897

Robert Sanders, AIA, Chairman
Samuel Gardner, AIA, Vice-Chairman
Laura Noble Perese, Secretary
John Doyle, AIA
Megan LaBant Abrahamsen
Kevin Quinlan, AIA

Village District Design Committee Meeting Minutes*
October 19, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Rob Sanders, AIA, Chairma

Rob Sanders, AIA, Chairman, Sam Gardner, AIA, Vice Chairman, Laura

Noble Perese, Secretary, John Doyle, AIA

OTHERS

Robert Nerney, Town Planner and members of the public

PRESENT:

ABSENT: Megan Abrahamsen, Kevin Quinlan, AIA

The meeting convened at 4:05 p.m. Mr. Sanders explained the purpose of the meeting was to develop reporting procedures in response to referred applications from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Sanders reminded the committee not to discuss any pending or future application before the committee. Ms. Noble-Perese shared a draft document she had developed; explaining the document had been structured to include five specific categories: Introduction/Mission, Summary, Character, Landscape and History. Committee members agreed that the document was very helpful. It was suggested the "History" section be established after the "Introduction/Mission" statement so as to provide a general overview and background information at the outset of the report. Mr. Sanders stated such approach would establish perspective and help provide a big picture view of the application as well as the committee findings.

Mr. Sanders queried the committee's leeway in reviewing and opining on certain uses that, by their very nature, serve to form or alter the character of a particular neighborhood. It was agreed that the committee does not have the authority to supersede established zoning law, but should weigh in on certain use(s) deemed to be out of character with a neighborhood by way of incompatible design. The committee referred to intense business uses, such as an automotive dealership, as being potentially out of character with a village district neighborhood.

Committee members noted the need to capture fine detail that usually accompanies architectural plans. It was suggested that comments could be forwarded to both the

^{*}Minutes have not been reviewed by this committee and may be subject to revisions in future minutes. Full audio recordings of meeting is available at: www.wiltonct.org/tv/index.html

applicant and the Planning and Zoning Commission by redlining and providing notations on submitted plans. This information could then be scanned and electronically stored or conveyed to interested parties as necessary. Mr. Gardner felt a formal application could serve the dual purpose of providing guidance to an applicant. Mr. Doyle expressed the desire of seeing the relationship of a specific proposal to an overall neighborhood area; explaining that a successful project must have a certain relationship to its surroundings. Mr. Doyle expressed the need for a district design so as to provide an applicant a certain level of direction. It was agreed that more specific guidelines needed to be developed over the coming months.

Committee members requested staff be added to the VDCC email list consistent with other boards and commissions.

There being no further discussion, the Committee adjourned the meeting a 5:05 p.m.

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