

*Royalston Historic District Commission*  
*Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368*

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 17, 2019

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (chair), Andy West, Matthew Valliere, Pierre Humblet (secretary), Roger O'Donnell. All were voting members.

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

New applications

Christine Statuto presented a second version of her application to install a picket fence with a gate on the south side of the house at 7 South Royalston Rd. This version was clearer than the first, clarifying that there would only be a gate but no fence. However, the design of the gate was not specified. Considering that it was expected to be a simple and appropriate project, the commission asked Christine to add the design of the gate to the application before the next meeting. The application was amended to that effect. Roger then motioned to accept the modified application for consideration without a public hearing. Matt seconded. All voted in favor. Application 2019-10-2.

Minutes

The commissioners read the minutes of September and made minor amendments. Matt motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Roger seconded. All voted in favor.

Old applications

The commissioners considered the numerous applications that were accepted for consideration in September. No hearings had been requested on any of them. As they were all simple and not controversial, approval was always rapid. The minutes only record the votes.

Application 2019-09-1: Hardship application from the town for a temporary generator: Roger motioned to approve; Andy seconded. All in favor.

Application 2019-09-3: Appropriateness application from Marjorie Chase to reroof the barn at 18 Frye Hill Rd: Roger motioned to approve; Andy seconded. All in favor.

Application 2019-09-4: Appropriateness application from Roger O'Donnell to replace the front lamp at 5 Frye Hill Rd: Andy motioned to approve, Matt seconded, all voted in favor except Roger who recused himself.

Application 2019-09-5: Appropriateness application from Roger O'Donnell to install extra trim on the porch at 5 Frye Hill Rd: Andy motioned to approve, Matt seconded, all voted in favor except Roger who recused himself.

Application 2019-09-5: Appropriateness application from Roger O'Donnell to paint the house in darker brown, as it was in 1993, at 5 Frye Hill Rd: Andy motioned to approve, Matt seconded, all voted in favor except Roger who recused himself.

Application 2019-09-6: Appropriateness application from Roger O'Donnell to change the roof shingles from grey 3-tab to hunter green architectural, at 5 Frye Hill Rd: Andy motioned to approve, Matt seconded, all voted in favor except Roger who recused himself.

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## New applications:

National Grid submitted an application to replace poles 7, 8 and 10 in the area in front of the town hall, and to install a new three phase transformer on pole 8, to serve the new elevator at the town hall.

The commissioned discussed the case and concluded that the pole replacements were not subject to the historic district bylaw, as they were substantially similar to the existing one (the range of heights of the existing poles included the new heights). Only the new transformer required an application. The commissioned decided to issue a certificate of hardship, as the transformer is essential to facilitate public access to the town hall.

Andy motioned to approve the application for consideration. Matt seconded. All voted in favor. Andy then motioned to approve the issuance of a certificate of hardship if no abutters requested a public hearing within 10 days after being notified of the application. Matt seconded. All voted in favor. Application 2019-10-1

## Internal commission matters

A satellite antenna for data access has been erected on a roof at 3 on the Common without requesting a certificate. The commission decided to write a friendly letter to the tenant requesting that the antenna be moved further north, which would make it invisible from the road. Pierre will draft such a letter and it will be finalized later.

## Meeting adjourned

Roger motioned to close the meeting. Andy seconded. All voted in favor. Peter closed the meeting at 9:17 P.M.



Pierre A. Humblet  
RHDC Secretary