

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 21, 2007

Attendees: Andy West, Rick Carrier, Roger O'Donnell, and Celt Grant. All were active voters.

Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm by Vice chair, Celt Grant.

A public hearing was opened to discuss two applications for appropriateness. The first application discussed was an application from the Police Department for a radio antenna to be installed on the rear of the Town Hall. Several residents asked questions and gave opinions. Dwight Stowell commented that the Town barn would be more appropriate and asked if it had been considered. Theresa Quinn voiced moderate concern of having to put such a device on the town hall. Andy made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:30. Roger seconded. The vote was unanimous.

The public hearing for a sign on a barn at 18 On The Common by Dwight Stowell. The text on the sign would read "Cothelstone Farm, A. Mavericke Stowell, Prop. Dr. Stowell mentioned that the sign would be distressed so as to look antique. He stated that Cothelstone is the name of a family property in Somerset, England. The name A. Mavericke Stowell is his daughter's name. The lettering will be gold-leaf. Kevin McGuirk was present to assist Dr. Stowell and answered questions about the sign. Andy made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:43. Roger seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Active Applications

Andy requested that the Commission take up Dr. Stowell's application first as he was present. Discussion occurred around the historic significance of signs on the common. Some members were concerned that the naming convention had no connection to the town. Mr. McGuirk, a craftsman working for Dr. Stowell spoke on behalf of the quality of Dr. Stowell's workmanship of his properties. Rick spoke in favor of the application because of the positive changes made at the property. Andy made a motion to approve the application for a Certificate of Appropriateness. Rick seconded. The vote was 3 in favor, Roger abstained. Certificate 6-1-2007. Members question Dr. Stowell about several changes made to the property without submitting applications. Changes include a change to the light fixture on the front porch, the addition of a light fixture on the western elevation of the house ell, stone posts and chain erected instead of the approved picket fence, and a light fixture over the large barn. Dr. Stowell took a list of questioned items and agreed to submit applications for them.

The next application considered was the Police Department antenna. Members were generally in favor of allowing the antenna. Rick made a motion to approve the antenna and location with the stipulation that the antenna be removed when use is discontinued. Andy seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Certificate 6-2-2007.

| The next application discussed was an application from Steve Chase for Henry Cole's house at ~~6-7~~ On The Common to replace slate tiles on the rear ell (shed) of the house with 3-tab asphalt shingles in a color to match the existing asphalt on house. The requirement for public hearing had been waived by the commission in May. Andy made a motion to approve the application. Rick seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Certificate 6-3-2007.

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Steve Chase presented an application for his property at 19 Frye Hill Rd. (formerly Eldora Bowers) to paint the exterior green with brown trim. He said the color history of the house was blue, brown, and white. Andy made a motion to accept the application for consideration with a public hearing to be held on July 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Minutes from the May 17, 2007 meeting were read and approved.

New Business

No new business was discussed

Old Business

Rick brought research about historic signs. Members discussed possible materials and decided to select marine plywood. Rick will research other sign designs.

Meeting adjourned

Celt motioned to adjourn the meeting, Roger seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy West,
Secretary