

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Meeting Minutes

Date: Jan 21, 2010

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (Chair), Celt Grant (Vice-Chair), Bob Casinghino (late), Rick Carrier (late), Pierre Humblet, Ken Lively, Roger O'Donnell and Andy West (late).

Peter opened the meeting at 7:39 PM.

Minutes

Roger read the minutes of Dec 7, 2009. No comments were made. Celt motioned to approve the minutes as read. Ken seconded. All voted in favor except Roger who abstained as he was not present in December.

Old business

Andy arrived at this point.

Parsonage chimney

Charlie Scribner from the Congregational Church board was present. The board had also sent a letter indicating that they would reconstruct the chimney but asking for an extension. After a short discussion Andy made a motion to extend the deadline to May 15, 2010, Celt seconded. All voted in favor except Ken and Pierre who recused themselves as abutters. Pierre will send a letter to the board.

The commission thanked Charlie for agreeing to rebuild the chimney and asked him to make sure that the satellite dish be placed on the roof, as promised earlier by the Pastor. Charlie was not aware of the history, so it was recounted to him. He said he would look into it. The commission also asked Charlie to indicate whether they intended to repair the barn windows or remove them and rebuild the clapboard wall as allowed in a recently granted certificate of appropriateness. Charlie said he would.

Propane tank at 7 on the Common

Henry Cole sent a letter agreeing to bury the tank but applying for an extension. Andy made a motion to extend the deadline to May 15, 2010, Roger seconded. All voted in favor except Ken and Pierre who recused themselves as abutters. Pierre will send a letter to Henry Cole, including the information he requested, and send a copy to Stephen Chase.

New business

Bob and Rick arrived at this point.

The committee discussed the issue of dish antennas and how to regulate their placement in light of the bylaw clause about TV antennas. Andy made a motion but later withdrew it. The matter will be revisited at the next meeting. Pierre will contact Chris Skelly at the MHC.

The committee also discussed the matter of John McClure's windows. No answer to our letter of December 7 was received. The deadline for an appeal to the Superior Court has now long passed. No appeal was made as far as we know. It is thus up to us to have our past decisions applied. There was a consensus to send John a letter, but not immediately. Pierre argued that we should establish

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windows replacement guidelines before this particular case comes back to us. The matter will be reconsidered at the next meeting.

Celt is the liaison between the Historical Commission and the Preservation Commission, which is looking for worthwhile project ideas. Several projects were mentioned, mostly about repairs in 3 cemeteries as well as to the historical society building.

Internal procedure document

The rest of the meeting was spent editing the draft of the future internal procedure document. Pierre took notes of the edits and will create the next version.

Meeting adjourned

Following unanimous approval of a motion made by Bob and seconded by Roger, Peter adjourned the meeting at 10:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "P.A. Humblet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "P.A." and the last name "Humblet" clearly distinguishable.

Pierre A. Humblet,
Secretary