

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 20, 2010

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (Chair), Bob Casinghino, Rick Carrier (late), Chris Dawson (late), Pierre Humblet and Ken Lively. All were active voters.

Peter opened the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Minutes

After the Commission members had read the minutes of the April 15 meeting and no corrections were requested, Bob motioned to approve the minutes as written. Pierre seconded. All voted in favor except Ken who abstained, as he was not present in April.

New business (Chris arrived at this point)

John McClure filed an application to replace the 6/6 and 3/3 wood windows at 8 N.E. Fitzwilliam Rd with 6/6 or 3/3 Anderson wood windows with baked white finish and double paned low-E glass with internal muntins (the application was modified to correct the number of lights in the drawing and to describe the muntins). John stated that the new sashes would fit directly in the existing frames (the bottom slope would be customized), contrary to the vinyl windows that were installed last August. Those consist of a frame insert with narrower sashes. The commissioners regretted that neither a model name or number, nor a brochure nor detailed dimensions nor profiles were provided.

Considering the history of the case, Bob made a motion to accept the modified application for consideration at a public hearing, with the provision that a sample of the proposed window as well as the dimensions would be provided. Pierre seconded. All voted in favor. The application was assigned number 2010-05-01.

Public hearing and vote

Peter then opened a public hearing to discuss application 2010-04-01 for a certificate of appropriateness to remove the gazebo porch at 22 on the Common.

The Stantons had sent a revised application that mentioned the potential roof work.

Stephen Chase was present to represent the Stantons.

The HDC had received a letter of support from Boyd Estus, an abutter.

Stephen outlined the scope of the work and answered many questions. He explained that the roof would remain intact and that it would be patched or re-shingled, keeping the same style and color (within close approximation).

Peter closed the public hearing.

Pierre motioned to approve the revised application. Bob seconded. All voted in favor.

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Old business

- Henry Cole's propane tank at 7 on the Common.

Mr. Cole has not respected the May 15 deadline, but Stephen Chase assured the commission that the tank would be removed shortly. The commission decided to wait and see before taking future action.

- Parsonage chimney at 3 on the Common.

The commission noted with pleasure that the chimney has been rebuilt. Bob made a motion to send a letter of thanks to the Church Board and to mention that the satellite dish should be moved to an inconspicuous spot on the roof as the pastor had promised. Pierre seconded. All voted in favor.

- Historic District signs (Rick arrived at this point)

The commission discussed the proposed design and settled on #5, using a wooden post, a wooden board (no vinyl) but no bracket. There was a discussion about how to include the public and the selectboard in the process. The funds were appropriated at a Town meeting thus the decision to install the signs should not be revisited by the Commission, but comments on the design should be sought. We will revisit the issue at a future meeting attended by Andy.

New business

Pierre filed a new application received from the Bundschuhs to install a screen on the front porch (South East corner) at 17 on the Common, following a design used in the past (old pictures were provided).

Bob made a motion to accept the application for consideration without requiring a public hearing. Chris seconded. All voted in favor. The application was assigned number 2010-05-02.

Pierre explained that the HDC has an e-mail address, hdc at royalston-ma.gov, that serves as a forwarding relay to the mailboxes of the actual recipients. We can configure the forwarding as we wish. After a short discussion Pierre made a motion that the mail should be forwarded to all HDC officers, unless they object, as well as to all members who wish to receive it. Chris seconded. All voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned

Bob motioned to close the meeting. Chris seconded. All voted in favor. Peter closed the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Pierre A. Humblet,
Secretary