Royalston Historic District Commission Royalston, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20, 2011

Attendees: Peter (chair), Celt (vice chair), Ken, Pierre (secretary), Rick. All were active voters.

Peter called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.

Minutes

Bob read the minutes of the June meeting. A number of typos were pointed out and corrected. Celt motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Rick seconded. All voted in favor.

Old application

The commission considered the application 2011-09-01 by Beth Gospodarek to change the color of the first floor window trim from white to the same green as on the upper level shingles. Pierre announced that letters to the abutters had been sent on September 19 and that no request for a public hearing had been received. Pierre pointed out that the change was minor and would not alter the character of the district. He then moved that we approve the application and issue a Certificate of Appropriateness. Celt seconded. All voted in favor.

Correspondence

The MHC announced the beginning of its 2012 Survey and Planning Grant Cycle (50% matching grants). The commission decided to forward the information to Linda Alger for potential use in South Royalston.

Old business

<u>Historic District boundary signs</u>: Rick reported that he had ordered one sign. Pierre will remind Andy to check the availability of Town funds.

<u>Windows at 8 N.E. Fitzwilliam Rd</u>. The commissioners had no opportunity to contact John McClure informally. The commission decided to send him a registered letter noting that he has not answered our July letter to the effect that his front windows are not in compliance. The letter will ask him to state his intentions, either in writing before Nov 15 or by attending the meeting on Nov 17. Pierre will draft the letter and Peter will mail it.

New business

Ken noted that the new barn roof at 18 on the Common is black. He is wondering if this is what we approved.

Rick generously donated a file cabinet to the HDC. It was placed in a corner of the Town Hall dining room.

Meeting adjourned

Bob motioned to close the meeting and Rick seconded. Peter adjourned the meeting at 8:23 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Pierre A. Humblet,

Secretary

Royalston Historic District Commission

PO Box 125, Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Royalston, November 11, 2011

Mr. John McClure P.O. Box 18 Royalston, MA 01368

Dear John,

The Royalston Historic District Commission has not received your answer to the letter it sent you on July 21, 2011, to the effect that the front windows on your house at 8 NE Fitzwilliam Road are installed in violation of the Royalston Historic District bylaw (see annex). That situation has existed for the last two years.

The commission was expecting that you would implement a remedy within the one year validity of the Certificate of Appropriateness that was issued in July 15, 2010, which provides an acceptable alternative, but this has not happened.

We trust that you will remedy the situation shortly and would like to know your precise intentions, which you can state at a commission meeting (for example on Nov 17, 2011) or in writing by December 12, 2011. If we do not hear about a reasonable schedule we will take actions to enforce the bylaw.

Sincerely

Peter Kraniak, HDC chair