

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 18th, 2013

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (Chair), Andy West, Bob Casinghino, Clarence Rabideau, Ken Lively, Pierre Humblet (Secretary). All were active voters.

Peter opened the meeting slightly after 7:30 PM.

Minutes.

The members read the minutes of the March meeting. They were amended to indicate that the votes were unanimous. On a motion made by Clarence and seconded by Bob, the minutes were approved as amended with 5 positive votes. Ken abstained as he was not present in March.

New applications

Mark Smith submitted an application to add stairs to the rear deck at 7 S. Royalston Rd. They will be minimally visible from public ways. There were few questions and the members found the application to be well written. Bob asked when the annex on the West side would be reconstructed. Mark answered that this would not be financially possible for the next 3 to 5 years. Pierre motioned to accept the application for consideration at the next regular meeting, without requiring a public hearing. Ken seconded. All voted in favor. Application 2013-04-1

Kevin McGuirk presented a revised application for work on the barn at 18 on the Common. Compared to the one presented in March, additional windows are created on the North side and the design on the East side was totally changed. Although some clarifications were requested about the other sides, most of the discussion centered on the East side. A paragraph was deleted from the application and several alternatives for the 3rd floor opening were discussed. It was also remarked that the current plans were not to scale.

To move forward quickly, Kevin proposed to remove the changes to the East side from the application and he left the meeting.

Andy then made a motion to approve the application as amended, including the omission of the changes to the East wall, with the condition that the revised application be resubmitted within one week and that the final application include the layout and the details of the new windows on the North. Bob seconded. All voted in favor. Application 2013-04-2.

Other commission matters:

Historic District boundary signs: The commission has received an e-mail from Selectboard member Linda Alger stating that the Finance Commission had refused to reinstate the funds appropriated by the 1999 Regular Town Meeting and that she would resubmit her request. Pierre reported that the Division of Local Services of the Mass DOR can provide informational and formal legal advice to municipal staff. He suggested getting informational advice about our situation. The suggestion was well received; Pierre and Andy will follow up.

Common restoration: Clarence reported that the consultant working on the restoration of the monument was unable to make progress on determining how the pole is attached. Fair Alice, granddaughter of Calvin Bullock, kindly provided letters dating from the 40's and 50's, which indicate that troubles with the monument started quickly.

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Forthcoming continuation of Application 2012-12-01: This after-the-fact application was continued for 6 months with the expectation that the applicant would propose an alternative. We have not heard from the applicant and must act to avoid automatic approval. Bob made a motion to write a letter reminding the applicant of the upcoming hearing and of the need to update the application if changes are going to be proposed. Pierre seconded. All voted in favor (Ken had already left). A letter was drafted, Pierre will type it up, Peter will sign and mail it.

Road signs: Keith Newton told Peter that temporary modern signs will be installed on the Common during the closure of N.E. Fitzwilliam Rd (bridge renovation). As it is a temporary situation no member felt we should take action.

Meeting adjourned

On a motion made by Bob, seconded by Clarence and unanimously approved, Peter closed the meeting at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "P.A. Humblet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pierre A. Humblet,
Secretary

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

**Meeting Agenda
May 16, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Royalston Town Hall**

-Public Hearing:

Gas bottles at 11 N.E. Fitzwilliam Rd, James Barclay applicant,
#2012-12-01

-Reading and approval of the minutes

-Old Applications:

#2012-12-01, gas bottles at 11 N.E. Fitzwilliam Rd

#2013-04-01, rear deck steps at 7 South Royalston Rd.

-New Applications: As they may be filed at the meeting.

-Internal HDC Matters: Correspondence, Financial items, other
internal matters

-Other Commission Matters:

Historic District Boundary signs

Common renovations

-Any other business that may come before the commission