

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Meeting Minutes

Date: June 20th, 2013

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (Chair), Celt Grant (Vice-chair) Andy West, Bob Casinghino, Clarence Rabideau, Pierre Humblet (Secretary), Rick Carrier. All were active voters.

Public Hearing

At 7:33 Peter opened the public hearing on the application 2015-05-1 to renovate the barn at 18 on the Common, in particular adding windows on the North and East sides. The only member of the public present was Kevin Mc Guirk, the applicant. Positive comments had been received from Marita Cauthen and Ken Lively, both residents of the District.

Kevin presented the application and answered a few questions. He indicated that the light on the N side would be removed and that the work would proceed in 2 phases, in 2013 and 2014.

At 8:00 PM Pierre made a motion to close the public hearing. Celt seconded. All voted in favor.

Peter then closed the public hearing opened the regular meeting.

Regular meeting

Old applications

2013-05-01, application by Kevin McGuirk to renovate the barn at 18 on the Common.

The general view of the commission was that the proposal was welcome except possibly for the new openings on the East side. However that side is barely visible from public ways and no abutters have objected. Allowing that change, which increasing the usability of the barn, in exchange for its restoration and preservation for the long term seems to be a good tradeoff. Celt made a motion to issue a certificate of appropriateness. Rick seconded. All voted in favor except Andy who abstained and Bob who recused himself.

Minutes

The members read the minutes of the May meeting. Andy asked that they indicate that the steps in application 2013-04-1 are part of deck that was approved previously. Pierre pointed out a typo. Andy motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Clarence seconded. All voted in favor except Celt who abstained as he was absent in May.

New business

Deck at 2 on the Common. Chris Dawson has erected a deck without permission at 2 on the Common. He wrote that he would attend today's meeting but he did not show up and will move to Washington State next week.

The commission feels that the deck is an improvement over the crumbling concrete patio, but its color is objectionable and the proper process was not followed.

Bob made a motion to send a letter to Chris, the building inspector and the real estate agent stating that the deck is in violation of the bylaw and was not permitted. This has to be corrected in consultation with the HDC by Chris or the purchaser. Celt seconded. All voted in favor except Pierre who recused himself as abutter.

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New applications

Andy West filed an application for a Certificate of Non-applicability to reshingle the roofs of the house and shed at 12 South Royalston Rd with 3 tab shingles matching the existing ones in color and style.

Bob motioned to issue the requested certificate. Celt seconded. All voted in favor except Andy who recused himself. Application 2013-06-1

Other commission matters:

Historic District boundary signs: Andy reported that Linda Alger will go back to the Finance Commission to request the reinstatement of the funds appropriated at the 1999 Town Meeting, now that she has more facts lined up.

Common restoration: Clarence reported that bids have been received to restore the monument and move the flag pole to the West. Funds still need to be raised.

Pavilion at Bullock Park

Keith Newton requested permission to change its orientation. The commission regretted that no sketch was given but had no objection. Peter will contact Keith.

Meeting adjourned

On a motion made by Pierre, seconded by Bob and unanimously approved, Peter closed the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Pierre A. Humblet,
Secretary