

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 17, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, this meeting was held remotely. It took place on a Zoom Conference hosted by Selectboard chair Deb D'Amico. The call-in information was indicated in all meeting notices. The written material had been distributed by e-mail. All votes were taken by roll call.

Public Hearing

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (chair), Andy West, Bob Casinghino, Clarence Rabideau, Pierre Humblet (secretary), Roger O'Donnell, Deb D'Amico and Skip Comeau.

At 7:33 PM Peter opened the public hearing on applications 2020-08-3 by Skip Comeau to modify the fence at 4 South Royalston by creating a gate on the west side and adding decorations similar to those at 10 on the Common on all gates.

Skip explained the scope of the project. He mentioned that the owner had dropped the idea of adding decorations to the gates, as she wanted to keep the focus on the house itself. So only the change would be to add a gate on the west side.

Speaking as an abutter, Pierre remarked that the picket fence of the west side had a simpler design than on the north side (as shown on pictures), thus he thought the gates on the west and north should match their respective fence. Pierre had no opinion on whether the posts should be the same as those on the north side, or just simple 4 x 4.

Skip was fine regarding having the west gate match the west fence. Regarding the posts, he now preferred the simpler 4 x 4 ones, so that the new gate on the west side would not appear to be a main gate.

As there was nothing else to discuss, Roger motioned to close the public hearing. Pierre seconded. All voted in favor. Peter closed the public hearing.

Regular meeting

Attendees: Peter Kraniak (chair), Andy West, Bob Casinghino, Clarence Rabideau, Pierre Humblet (secretary), Roger O'Donnell. All were active voters.

Peter opened the meeting at 7:45 PM

Approval of the minutes

The commissioners read the minutes of the public hearing and of the meeting of Aug 27. The last name of a participant was added. Bob motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Clarence seconded. All voted in favor. Pierre then asked the members if they had voted for the Raymond School chimney removal for hardship or appropriateness reasons. None had voted for hardship reasons.

Old applications

Application 2020-08-3 by Skip Comeau for a certificate of appropriateness to modify the fences at 4 South Royalston Rd. The commission was favorable to the latest version presented by Skip at the hearing (gate replicating the picket fence, with 4 x 4 posts). Roger motioned to approve the application on the condition that the HDC receive an amendment specifying the latest design. Andy seconded. All voted in favor except Pierre who recused himself as he is an abutter.

Other commission matters

Bob reported that he had attended the CPC meeting as the HDC representative. The main item of interest is that the Town has requested \$15,000 to hire an architect to design the interior of the Raymond School building and for its renovation.

Meeting adjourned

Roger motioned to close the meeting. Bob seconded. Peter closed the meeting at 8:02 PM.

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

Pierre A. Humblet
RHDC Secretary