

# *Royalston Historic District Commission*

*Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368*

## Meeting Minutes

Date: July 17th, 2014

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

Peter opened the meeting at 7:40 PM

### Minutes:

The members read the minutes of the June meeting. Clarence move to accept them as written. Celt seconded. All voted in favor except Pierre who abstained. The members then read again the minutes of May as it was realized that the correction made in June was not warranted and that 2 typos were still present. Celt motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Clarence seconded. All voted in favor except Pierre who abstained.

### New application

Patience Bundschuh submitted a application for Certificate of appropriateness to install white aluminum gutters with a barely visible “microguard” top around the house at 17 on the Common. Some members pointed out that adding a mesh to a gutter can be counterproductive, but has no impact on the look. As the application was routine and as it may be difficult to get a quorum in August, Pierre motioned to accept and conditionally approve the application as per the accelerated procedure in section E.2.g.2 of the HDC rules and regulations. Celt seconded. All voted in favor. Pierre said he will notify the abutters the next day. Application 2014-07-1.

### Old applications

Application 2014-06-1 by John McClure to rebuild the white picket fence in the upper yard at 8 N.E. Fitzwilliam Road, while eliminating the double gate from the parking area and the diamond filial on top of the posts. The commission felt this was appropriate. Pierre motioned to approve the application. Clarence seconded. All voted in favor.

### Internal commission matters

Historic District Boundary. In May the commission has received a letter from Vyto Andreliunas on behalf of the Planning Board, asking for details about the boundary of the Historic District. Pierre presented the research he has done on the topic. Essentially there is a map filed at the Registry of Deeds. The features on that map (walls and streams) form a well recognizable boundary, which matches the metes and bounds description presented in Study Committee reports, but they are not always positioned correctly. It is also unclear if the undeveloped area west of the Cemetery is part of the District. The assessors’ maps have varied over time and show somewhat inaccurate boundaries.

The members asked questions but felt that the boundaries were well determined and allowed effective administration of the District, although the status of the area west of the cemetery should be clarified, in case it gets developed. To communicate this to the Planning, Pierre made a motion that he would draft a letter to the Planning Board, a) summarizing the above facts, b) pointing out that the Local Historic District need not coincide with a zoning district, and c) asking the Planning Board to consider using a new name for the zoning district if it doesn’t match the Historic District. The draft will be circulated for comments within the HDC and then signed and mailed by Peter. Clarence seconded. All voted in favor. Pierre plans to contact the AG office to see if it has a copy of the map.

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Celt then announced that he has sold his house and will be moving to Berdnardston, and that this was his last RHDC meeting. Rick thanked Celt for his long participation and leadership in the Commission, he will be greatly missed. Pierre added that Celt had often formulated well thought courses of action for the HDC to take.

Meeting adjourned

Clarence made a motion to close the meeting. Rick seconded. It was unanimously approved. Peter closed the meeting around 8:30 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