

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 19th, 2016

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

Peter opened the meeting at 7:33

Minutes:

The members read the minutes of the April meeting. Clarence motioned to approve the minutes as read and Bob seconded. All present voted in favor except Roger who abstained as he was not present in April.

New applications

Kevin McGuirk presented an application for a certificate of appropriateness to replace the woodshed at the N side of the ell at 4 Warwick Road with an enlarged structure, including a chimney.

Otherwise the appearance would remain generally similar to the current one. The application was amended to the effect that the entire ell would be reshingled using consistent 3 tab grey shingles.

Roger moved to accept the amended application for consideration and to call a public hearing for the June regular meeting. Clarence seconded. All voted in favor except Bob who recused himself as abutter. Application 2016-05-1.

Patience Bundschuh has submitted an application for a certificate of appropriateness to reshingle parts of 21 on the Common, keeping the same color, design and material. Andy remarked that this application did not require a review and moved to issue a certificate of non-applicability. Roger seconded. All voted in favor. Application 2016-05-2.

Pierre Humblet filed an application to reshingle the South side of the ell at 4 on the Common with architectural shingle matching those on the N side of the ell and on the main roof (instead of 3-tab).

Andy moved to accept the application for consideration and to approve it under the accelerated procedure whereby Peter will issue the certificate of appropriateness if no public hearing is requested by owners of adjacent properties within 10 days of the mailing of the notices. Roger seconded. All voted in favor except Pierre who recused himself. Application 2016-05-3.

Other commission matters

Wireless equipment. Pierre proposed to add language to the guidelines to the effects that installation of wireless antennas and cables for data communications in the Historic District required the approval of the HDC, but that agents of the Royalston Municipal Light Plant (RLMP) had automatic permission, under certain conditions, to install such equipment without obtaining a certificate.

This language was motivated by the observations that several members had stated that they would never make it impossible for an owner to obtain wireless internet access, even if the antennas were visible from a public way, and that we could thus delegate the details of the placement to the RLMP. Several members felt that letting agents choose the locations could lead to inappropriate installations. The commissioners debated how to introduce a proper review mechanism without unduly burdening the owners nor the commission, but they could not arrive at a satisfactory language.

Roger proposed to introduce the following rule: "Within the Royalston Historic District, all CPE related to the Royalston Municipal Light Plant wireless data buildout must be approved prior to installation."

Bob moved to approve the language and Rick seconded. All voted in favor. This language will only come in force if the same language is approved again at a future meeting.

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Historic District signs. Rick reported that the signs have been ordered. He will check on the delivery date.

Meeting adjourned

Roger made a motion to close the meeting. Bob seconded. It was unanimously approved. Peter closed the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P.A. Humblet".

Pierre A. Humblet,
Secretary