

Royalston Historic District Commission

Royalston, Massachusetts, 01368

No regular meeting took place in September due to a lack of quorum and of business.

Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20, 2016

Attendees: Bob Casinghino, Peter Kraniak, Andy West, and Rick Carrier. All were active voters.

In absence of the Secretary, Bob was asked to serve as the Acting Secretary. Peter opened the meeting at 7:40 PM

Minutes:

The members read the minutes of the August meeting. Andy motioned to approve the minutes as read and Bob seconded. All voted in favor.

Old Application: Kevin McGuirk filed an amendment to the already approved application 2016-05-1 for the work in the rear of 4 Warwick Rd. The amendment was to remove the roof structure of the first ell and elevate the new roof structure 12" higher than the existing roof. Kevin pointed out the current roof structure is at risk of collapse under a significant wet snow load risking injury and property damage. The commissioners discussed the amendment and concluded that the change was reasonable and required for safety reasons. They also observed that the work was non-controversial, as no public comments had been received on the initial application.

Andy then moved to accept the application as an amendment i.e. without requiring public notices. Rick seconded. All voted in favor except Bob who abstained as an abutter.

New Applications:

Geoff Newton filed a certificate of appropriateness to construct a stage at Bullock Park to be located next to the current covered structure. The application included 2 drawings of the stage – one with sides and one without. After discussion it was agreed by all that the structure which would be considered would be the stage without sides. There was discussions regarding the decking, roofing material and lattice surrounding the lower portion of the stage. Geoff would like to utilize Trek for the floors as it will be much more durable/long lasting than wood. For the roofing material there was a discussion about using either asphalt or metal – members felt since the roof would not be very visible a metal roof could be considered. The members also agreed that having lattice surround the bottom of the stage would be appropriate. There was further discussion around the lattice material – either vinyl or wood – all members felt vinyl would not be appropriate. The stage and lattice will be stained to match the other structure. Bob requested Geoff provide a layout showing the location of the stage next to the other structure which he agreed to do. Andy made a motion to accept the application for consideration with a public hearing scheduled for November 17, 2016 at 7:30 PM. Rick seconded. All voted in favor. Application 2016-10-1.

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Geoff Newton filed a second application to provide an electrical hookup on the Common, so that there would not be continuing costs each time an event needed electricity (such cost often exceeding \$500.00 per event). The application consisted of a picture of the electrical box with no other details. Geoff described where the electrical hookup would be located and the commission members then went outside to view the proposed location. There was a discussion as to how the electrical hookup could be concealed so that it would not just be a "metal box" on a pole. All agreed it was reasonable to conceal the box. At this time, there was nothing to propose, so Kevin McGuirk, who was present at the meeting offered to work with Geoff and his committee to come up with potential solutions. All members agreed that more information would be needed before the application could be considered. Geoff agreed to return at a later meeting with more details.

Geoff then made a request that the Commission postpone the public hearing for the stage (Application 2016-10-1) until such time as he is able to provide an application for the electrical hookup, so that only 1 public hearing would be required for both applications. The Commission accepted his request.

Meeting adjourned

Andy made a motion to close the meeting. Rick seconded. It was unanimously approved. Peter closed the meeting around 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bob Casinghino', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Bob Casinghino,
Acting Secretary