

ROYALSTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

DATE: May 21, 1998

ATTENDERS: Andy West, Karen Pickford (alt.), Patience Bundschuh, John Poor, Ken Lively, Rick Carrier, George Krasowski, and guests John McClure, and Clarence Rabideau.

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 P.M..

OLD BUSINESS

The minutes from the April meeting were read. After a couple of amendments, the minutes were accepted.

Andy asked Karen if she had any new information on the older style street lights. It was mentioned that a gentlemen from Mass. Electric may have a few spare parts of the older style of street light. Andy stated that a newer style sodium light has been placed in front of the Barclay's house and that there is a broken light in front of the Smith's house. The Commission would like to keep the older style of lights in the Historic District. A discussion followed about what should be done to locate spare light parts. Karen offered to make contact with a Congressman to see if this is an avenue that the Commission may be able to take.

The Frye Hill construction was again the subject of discussion. Andy stated that the sub-committee hasn't been able to get together and gather the needed information or needed applications. John stated that something needs to be done. It was decided that a few members will get together and go up to the construction site to get the information that is needed.

Andy stated that Eldora Bowers hasn't responded to the letter that was sent to her dated March of 1998. It was discussed that the Commission may not have much of a chance of getting Mrs. Bowers to repaint the house. After some discussion, it was decided to send Mrs. Bowers another letter as a reminder to the fact that white clapboards are fine, but the lavender trim is not acceptable. John made the suggestion that the letter may suggest that the whole house could be painted white, including trim. Andy will send the letter and give Mrs. Bowers the chance to submit another application.

John stated the fact that the tree planting is complete. Peter and John planted all four trees. It was mentioned that the trees look great.

Andy stated that he wrote a letter to NYNEX suggesting that the use of Mountain Laurel, Rhododendrons, or an evergreen shrub would be acceptable to the Commission. These shrubs are to be planted in front of the telephone junction box near the Fire Station.

Andy mentioned the fact that the Raymond School and the Town of Royalston may have signed a lease. Andy brought up the fact that the school might consider using the left side entrance for the handicapped ramp. It was mentioned that the ramp may stick out more on that side.

NEW BUSINESS

Andy stated that Clarence has expressed an interest to join the Commission as an alternate member. A brief discussion followed and it was voted to accept both Clarence and Ginger Asel, if she wants, to become alternative members on the Commission. John made the motion to accept the nomination of both Clarence and Ginger. It was approved unanimously 7-0. Andy will call Ginger to see if she is interested, then notify the selectmen.

An application from John McClure was submitted to change his Southeast driveway from gravel to concrete stone. The concrete stone will be of random size and 2" thick. The finished product will be a poured concrete driveway in random sized stone shape and a gray color. George made the motion to accept the application and Rick seconded. John abstained and the vote was approved 6-0-1. The certificate # is 1-98.

An application from Ken Lively was submitted to change the color of both front and South side screen doors from black to green. The green will match the color of the shutters when replaced. A paint chip was included with the application. Patience made the motion to accept the application and George seconded. Ken abstained from voting and the application was approved 6-0-1. The certificate # is 2-98.

Ken submitted another application to change the color of his window sashes from black to white. A brief discussion followed and it was decided that the color change would look fine. John made a motion to accept the application and Patience seconded it. The application was approved 6-0-1 with Ken abstaining. The certificate is # 3-98.

Karen gave a brief overview about her future plans to change the elevation of her South side lawn. She would like to build a stone wall parallel to the street and raise the ground level in front of the wall and lower the ground level behind the wall for a sunken garden. Karen will submit an application in the future.

Ken gave an update on the Pierce-Stowe house. He stated that the owner, Henry Cole, has started some structural work and ventilation work in the cellar. Ken also stated that the house is in line for a complete paint job sometime this summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 P.M..

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth P. Lively

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Secretary