

**\*\*SPECIAL MEETING\*\***

**ROYALSTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

DATE: June 3, 1998

ATTENDERS: George Krasowski, Andy West, Rick Carrier, Ken Lively, John Poor, Clarence (alt.), and Karen Pickford (alt.), also guests Rick Shaw and Risa Richardson.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

The handicapped ramp for the Raymond School was presented by Risa Richardson of the Village School. John brought up the fact that he wondered if the Building Inspector has seen any of the plans as of yet. Rick Shaw replied that the Building Inspector hasn't seen them as of yet. John stated that he saw the Chairman of the Selectmen at the school on this day with the director of Public Works. They had a discussion about the roof run off that will fall onto the ramp and possibly freeze up in the winter. John stated that the Chairman of Selectmen suggested using a metal railing instead of the pressure treated railing that was on the application. John also stated that the Town of Royalston is paying for the ramp and may possibly want something more long term.

A discussion followed as to the options for the ramp. It was discussed if we as a Commission could even act on this application at this time. The Village School wants to start the construction this coming weekend. A volunteer crew will build this ramp with Rick Shaws supervision.

John stated that the Selectmen should look at these plans and also the Building Inspector before the Historic Commission act on it.

Rick Shaw stated that work probably shouldn't start until all agree on the plans including rail type and ramp style.

Andy stated that a gutter may be able to control the water run off. John still is concerned about the possible freezing problem.

Andy stated that if the Selectmen wanted an input, that they should have mentioned it at the last Selectmen meeting.

Clarence brought up the point that maybe a different product be used instead of pressure treated so that it can be painted right off. Rick Shaw stated that a heavy price tag comes with the alternatives to pressure treated lumber.

Andy asked for a general consensus as to if we should proceed with the application. It was decided to continue with the application.

Andy asked what the railings would be made of and Rick Shaw stated they will be made of fir. It will be a 2" X 2" banister. The railings being made of metal or wood were again discussed.

The question of paint was discussed and a solid stain was suggested instead of the use of paint. White was the preferred color.

Andy questioned where the columns of the building actually will fall on the ramp. Rick Shaw explained that the top step will be raised up to the first floor level of the school. The ramp will be built around the columns.

Rick Carrier questioned about the underside of the ramp. It was stated that the old stairs and all support posts will be visible. There isn't anything in the plans to screen the underside of the ramp at this time. All of the supports will be in plain sight. It was decided to leave it exposed for now. It was discussed that it can be addressed at a later date if necessary.

John brought up the fact that a narrative should be attached to the application. It was agreed to have the Village School attach a narrative to the application.

Andy made the announcement that Clarence and Ginger are now official alternates to the Historic Commission.

Andy states that John and himself went to the Selectmen meeting on Monday night and discussed the fact that many people in the Historic District have done renovations without the approval of the Commission. They asked the Selectmen what they recommend that Commission should do. They wanted permission to enforce the Historic District by-laws from the Selectmen.

It was mentioned that Jason Fortunato is in the process of putting up an above ground swimming pool in his backyard. Jason had approached Andy about this addition to his backyard. It was discussed what should be done about this situation. After a discussion, it was suggested that Jason would have to first receive approval from the Commission to construct a stockade fence around the pool.

Andy will write a letter for an application for the pool as an after the fact application. John states that the Selectmen will back the Commission if needed. Jason will have to follow the rules of the Historic District.

After the narrative was written up the application for the Village School was read by Andy. Andy wrote in that the ramp would need to be painted no later than 5-30-99.

Andy asked the Village School if lattice could be put in at a later date if the Commission felt it was necessary and Risa said that if lattice was requested that they would put it on. George made a motion to approve the application and Rick seconded.

Andy abstained because his son will be attending the School in the fall. The vote was approved 6-0-1 and the certificate is # 4-98.

It was mentioned that the Building Inspector will meet with the Village School later this week or next week. Andy will make copies of the application and mail to Risa tomorrow.

John made the point that the Town Counsel would represent the Commission if it is necessary on any violation that the Historic Commission needs help with.

Rick Carrier stated that a fence looks like it is going up at the Captain Frye house. A brief discussion followed and the possible fence will be watched if necessary.

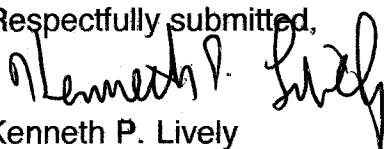
Andy will contact the Town Counsel to ask questions as to what procedure would need to be followed if the Commission was to serve legal notice.

The upcoming trip to Landmark Trust at Naulakha in Brattleboro, Vt. was discussed. Final plans will be announced at a later date.

George offered to have an informal discussion with Jason about his need to submit an application for the pool. George will also discuss the possibility of Jason putting up a fence with an application.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 P.M..

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth P. Lively  
Secretary