

ROYALSTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2000 MEETING

The meeting was called to order by chairman Patience Bundschuh at 7:40 PM. Members present and voting were Patience Bundschuh, Clarence Rabideau, Andy West, Karen Pickford, and Rick Carrier. Alternate present and voting was Jodie Brighenti.

After the reading of the minutes for the March 16, 2000 meeting it was decided that certain areas needed to be more specific and the minutes needed to be amended. Patience suggests that we table approval of the minutes. Andy makes a motion to table the minutes. Rick seconds the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. A special meeting will be held on Tuesday April 25 at 7:30pm in the Town Hall. To approve the updated and more specific amended minutes.

Patience suggests that we circumvent Old Business because we have people waiting to offer applications for consideration. Andy motions to circumvent Old Business. Clarence seconds the motion. All agree unanimously.

New Business

1. Pat Jackson offers applications for consideration.

The first application is for landscaping around her home. After examining detailed drawings of the proposed landscape changes, Patience asks if there is enough information for the HDC to take a vote on accepting this application for consideration. Andy motions to accept the application for consideration. Clarence seconds. The motion was approved unanimously. The HDC will notify abutters, there is no need for a public hearing.

The second application is for alterations to the carriage shed/ell that is attached to her home. The first proposed change would be the installation of an exterior door on the ell so that workman would not go through the house. The second proposed change is for the restoration of the carriage doors (visible from the interior of the building) that are on the south façade, with the installation of a 15 paned frenchdoor with the echo of a fanlight. This echo reflects the fanlight that is over the front door. The commission questions if the doors will be painted. What are some of the distinct features of this specific type of Morgan door and if there is a picture of the door. Clarence would like to see a more detailed and specific plan because this is a major change to this home. Karen would like to see a drawing of the

fanlight. Dimensions that are more exact need to be offered to the commission. Clarence suggests that a picture that includes the entire home with the proposed changes to the ell would be beneficial in this process. It is suggested to Pat Jackson that she can just have the commission deal with the first part of the application and have the second part removed. Pat Jackson voluntarily withdraws the second part of the application. Andy West makes a motion to accept part 1 of the second application. Karen Pickford seconds. All agree unanimously to accept the application for consideration.

At this time, Patience introduces the commission to Marion Morse, the new owner of the old Bodman property. Karen invites Mrs. Morse and her mother to the Historical Society meeting in July.

2. Andy West brings in an application for Maxine Wilcox. The application is for a black 2" chimney cap. Clarence makes a motion to accept the application. Karen seconds the motion. All agree to accept the application unanimously.

3. Andy West presents an application for the installation of a fence that will run the entire length of the West's open yard. Andy submitted a very detailed application. The proposed fence will be a picket fence with four granite posts and a gate. The fence will set back approximately 20' from the centerline of South Royalston Road. Andy stated that the granite posts would give the fence a more rustic look. The fence will offer a safety barrier. Clarence motions to accept the application. Jodie seconds the motion. All approve the motion unanimously. Karen suggests a public hearing. There will be a public hearing at 7pm May 18, 2000 before the regularly scheduled monthly HDC meeting.

4. Village School application for certificate of appropriateness for a small round sign to be attached to the left door on the left side set of doors. The panel will be green. Clarence would like to see what color green they want to use. Andy motions to accept application for consideration. Clarence seconds. All agree to accept the application for consideration unanimously. There is no need for a public hearing, abutters will be notified. Patience reads a letter from the Village school in regards to the white propane tank. The GBG Company will bury the tank if the town digs the hole. Patience will mention this letter to the selectmen.

Old Business

Karen mentions some concerns given to her by a concerned citizen.

1. The ramp attached to the Village School now blends in with the building and that staining might not now be necessary and that lattice work needs to be attached due to the large amount of rubble under the ramp. The ramp was to be painted white with gray. The latticework was never voted on. The Village School feels that the town owns the building and that the town should be responsible for those matters.
2. The Fortunato fence color status. Patience had spoken to Mr. Fortunato and it will be taken care of soon.

Update on Landmark Trust's decision to appeal the HDC's decision to deny the application for permanent removal of the balustrade.

The Landmark Trust has notified the HDC of its decision to appeal the denial of the application. The Landmark Trust has requested copies of all applications and correspondence that the HDC has had for the past three years. All paper work is public record.

The appeal process. The Montachusett Regional Planning Board will designate a panel. It will be a three-member panel and all panelists will have related experience that will enable them to render a qualified decision.

The HDC is responsible for posting the public meeting and the meeting will be held in Royalston.

Clarence asks what will happen if the MRPB overturns the HDC's decision.

Patience has met with Bill Reopel [selectman] about who owns what in regards to the fence. What steps can be taken so that we can work together?

1. Easement of land. Bill Reopel/Commission should talk to assessors about property line and easement, it does not mention fence and it was dated 1930. Fence might be after 1930.
2. Town council. Ask if fence belongs to Bastille by adverse possession? The selectmen will handle and contact Town council.
3. Grant easement to Landmark Trust. Make the gesture. It will be at least an attempt.

1&2 should be done first. Patience has done the first and is waiting to hear from Bill Reopel on the second.

Have not heard from selectmen in regards to pole hearing.

The Historical Society signs. Andy has sent letters to Monty Tech.

George Krasowski has notified Patience of his decision to resign from the Commission. Commission members should come up with names to submit to the selectmen.

At 10:40 Andy motions to adjourn the meeting. Clarence seconds. All agree.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodie Brighenti, secretary