

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 17, 2000 ROYALSTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

The meeting was called to order by chairman Patience Bundschuh at 7:30 pm. Members present and voting are Patience Bundschuh, Peter Kraniak, Karen Pickford, Bob Casinghino, Andy West, and Rick Carrier. Alternate present and voting is John Divoll. Alternate present is Jodie Brighenti. The minutes for the July 20, 2000 meeting were read. The minutes were amended to include two clarifications. It was clarified on #7 of New Business that a copy of a letter sent to Mr. Tansey by the HDC, would also be sent to the Board of Directors of the Landmark Trust and John Wilcox. The second item to be clarified and amended was #8 of New Business. Patience had sent a letter to them (the Smith Family) in regards to their half-painted home. Andy West motions to accept amended minutes. Bob Casinghino seconds. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Pat Jackson's application to paint her home and barn a color other than the traditional white that is prevalent on the common. After Patience reads the application, the application is then open for discussion. It is clarified that the shutters will be a dark green. Peter Kraniak mentions the colors yellow and white need to be specific. This application is for both the house and barn. Pat will paint the house first and then the barn. Pat speculated that the house at one time was the same color as the yellow as the barn. Since the barn is termed, a "fancy" style of barn it would make sense that the house and barn could share the same color. Why yellow? Pat likes the color. Bob Casinghino likes the whole perspective of the mid 19th century common, would prefer to see the common all white. The fact that the common is all white makes a strong statement. White is appropriate for the common and it is important to maintain the homes in the District, would also like to see the barn stay white. (Pat shows a paint color pamphlet of period appropriate paint colors). John feels that the colors Pat has presented are very time appropriate. It is clarified that the HDC has jurisdiction over color. Karen would like to see some evidence that the home was at one time a color other than white. Peter states that it is the architecture not the color that is significant. Andy mentions that the HDC needs to keep an open mind in regards to the option of choosing colors. If there is adequate historical background then it could be appropriate to change the color of a home to a period appropriate color.

This decision is not binding to all homes. Each home will need to be considered individually. Location can also be a factor in a decision. Rick mentions that proof of a different color is very important. John mentions that if the barn was a different color than the house then it would have been red. The fact that the barn is a color other than red makes a case for the house and barn being the same color. Can still have jurisdiction over color as long as the color is time appropriate. Andy mentions that the HDC has allowed many architectural changes and the paint is historically significant. John makes a motion to accept application. Peter seconds. Patience, Peter, John, and Andy are in favor of approving the application. Bob, Rick, and Karen are opposed to approving the application. The motion to accept the application is approved. #8-1-00.

2. The First Congregational Church Application for a paved parking area. The parking area will be 22' wide, 24' deep with an 8' walkway that will be 12' long. The paved surface will be black top. Peter motions to approve the application. Rick seconds. All vote to approve motion. Patience then reads letter from abutter J.P. Kelly. He would like to see the parking area smaller, with less pavement showing. Andy motions to nullify previous vote. Bob seconds. Motion approved. Andy then motions to approve application. Rick seconds. Karen, John and Patience can not vote. Voting will be Andy, Rick, Peter, and Jodie. Motion to approve application is carried.
3. Norma Butterworth is applying for a new trailer to replace her existing older trailer that is presently on her property on Frye Hill. The new trailer is white with brown trim. Also an old shed will be taken down. The current trailer is 15' from the road and the new trailer will be 54' from the road and will sit perpendicular to the road. There will also be a metal skirt wrapped around the trailer that will be the same color as the trailer (that info is added to application). Will notify abutters and hold a public hearing on September 21, 2000. Bob motions to accept ammended applicaton for consideration. John seconds. Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

1. Patience inquires about back minutes. Karen will give to Patience.
2. Have not heard from the Smith's or Fortunato's.
3. Have sent application to Village School.
4. Patience reads letter that she had written to David Tansy about the fence and what the Landmark Trust intends to do about the fence. David Tansy replied and copies of letter are distributed to HDC members. It is suggested that the HDC cc the selectmen Mr. Tansy's correspondence.

The issue of the fence still needs to be resolved. The HDC needs to have some type of legal advice as to who owns the fence and will the selectmen offer the HDC access to Town council. Members of the community have offered various types of assistance. The HDC needs to know what position the selectman have taken in regards to the fence. Members of the HDC will go to meeting on Wednesday August 23rd to speak with selectmen. Andy will also draft a letter in response to Mr. Tansy's letter.

5. In response to the failure of the prop 2 ½ override Andy suggests that the HDC give back the money that had been allocated for signs. Bob motions to have the HDC return to town the money allocated for the signs. Andy seconds. Motion carried.
6. Elections will be at next meeting.

Bob Casinghino motions to adjourn meeting. Peter seconds. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodie Brighenti, secretary