

Historic District Commission
July 13 2009 – Regular Meeting
Town Hall – Room #3
127 Norwich Avenue

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Ellen Sharon, Robert Kvederas, Peter Chesnes, Nancy Anderson; Alternates Janice Adams at 7:02 p.m., Mike Trocchi, Linda Akerman at 7:07 p.m., Selectman Rosemary Coyle, Mike Caplet.

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Beer.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sharon called this Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions were requested.

Chairman Sharon noted the voting members for this evening will be E. Sharon, R. Kvederas, P. Chesnes, J. Adam, and Mike Trocchi.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

A. Minutes of May 18, 2009 Regular Meeting.

Motion by: P. Chesnes
to waive reading of the minutes.

Second by: N. Anderson.

Vote: Unanimous by those present.

J. Adams arrived at this point in the agenda.

Motion by: P. Chesnes

to approve the minutes of May 18, 2009, meeting with a correction to Page 2, Item 8.B., Nancy Anderson did not participate in the Grade 3 Schoolhouse talks.

Second by: R. Kvederas.

Vote: Unanimous to approve as amended.

4. FIVE MINUTE SESSION FOR THE PUBLIC

No comments received.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Town Green/Hayward Avenue, trees/power lines as possible long-term project.

Chairman Sharon stated she did not send the letter from the Commission regarding the trees and the request for looking into the underground power lines to the First Selectman as discussed at the previous meeting. E. Sharon asked the Commission members if they would like to gather information on the cost and take on the underground power lines as a long term project for the Historic District.

R. Coyle suggested a plan be formulated, talk to property owners, bring the plan to the Board of Selectmen and to the Commission Chairmen's meeting.

L. Akerman arrived at this point in the agenda.

Motion by: N. Anderson

to move forward with discussions to take on the long term project to bury powerlines in the Historic District.

Second by: P. Chesnes.

Vote: Unanimous.

NANCY A. BRAY
TOWN CLERK

Rosemary Coyle

2009 JUL 15 PM 4:25

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT

B. Colored School/Update on discussions with Parks & Rec and Town Facilities.

E. Sharon met with Jason Cohen, Director of Parks and Recreation Department, who is putting together a list of volunteers for various town projects. J. Cohen asked the Commission to put together a narrative on the school to put in the new publication The Colchester Connection.

New doors, shutters and paint are complete on the schoolhouse. R. Kvederas coordinated the painting with the Boy Scouts. Carefree Buildings repaired the door.

C. Church parking plans.

The Federated Church has been to Zoning Board of Appeals and is expecting a decision this month on their request for a variance regarding the new parking proposal. Chairman Sharon said the project is expected to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission in August. The horseshoe drive in the front area appears to cover a large part of the church's front lawn. E. Sharon would like to see the Commission members take a look at the plans.

D. Firehouse restoration June 9, 2009 meeting.

The old firehouse will be restored with a grant given to the Town. A Certificate of Appropriateness was granted in 2001 based on the original grant application and plans. This new grant used the same plans as originally presented. A second bid process has generated more bids.

E. Map update – J. Adams.

Janice Adams has not been able to contact D. Hayn to retrieve the map. J. Adams has a place to reproduce the map and the estimated cost of the copy and will continue to try to obtain the original map.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Colored School/Opening for Historical Society/Issues with lock.

The Colored School will be open for the Historical Society Craft Fair on July 25, 2009. Janice Adams will be there from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., E. Sharon will take the 1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. shift.

B. Chevrolet dealership and return of frontage to lawn.

Former HDC Chairman Jean Smith notified First Selectman Linda Hodge that the lease between the dealership and the State for the front parking area at the dealership has expired. This is an opportunity to discuss redevelopment of the property with the State Department of Transportation.

C. Bacon Academy restoration plans.

E. Sharon noted that the Trustees of Bacon Academy have preliminary plans for restoration of Old Bacon Academy.

D. New Town sign and planting bed on the Green.

Chairman Sharon stated that the Colchester Business Association has replaced the worn sign on the Green with a new sign and a large area of plantings.

E. Signage at Isham House Barn (old PepperBarn) location.

ZEO C. Grimord provided the Commission with a copy of the correspondence sent recently to owner Aaron Tyler regarding the sign.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. 2009 Colchester Land Use Summit, Wednesday July 29, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman Sharon reminded the members of this important meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by: N. Anderson
to adjourn this meeting.

Second by: R. Kvederas.

Vote: Unanimous.

Chairman Sharon adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk