

Windham Historic District Commission Meeting
July 29, 2009

Commissioners present: W. McMunn, Chair; Alice Burns-Decelles, David Johnson (alt.), David Masopust, Charles Thorpe, and Nancy Ames. Also in attendance was James Finger, Windham's Town Planner.

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Janet Clapp presented an application to erect a storage shed at 67 North Road (Property 61). The shed will be on the site of the barn that was removed last year. It will be a 10' by 14' Dutch Colonial style wood structure.

Walter Pudlo presented an application to remove an overhang at the front of the house at 49 Scotland Road (Property 4). The overhang is not original to the house. The overhang's removal, along with the removal of the floor below it, will restore the portico to its original appearance.

Gordon Muir, representing St. Paul's Church, presented an application to take down and rebuild in a different location a stone wall at 27 Plains Road (Property 47). The existing stone wall will be rebuilt, using the same stones and in the original manner, approximately 20' east of its current location. The adjacent wall will be repaired and an opening added to provide access to an area where a memorial garden is planned. An existing storage shed will be moved. Owners of abutting properties expressed concern about drainage. James Finger suggested that the general concept could be approved and, as the design is developed, the applicant come back to the Commission regarding issues such as drainage and placement of benches in the proposed memorial garden.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:19 pm and the Commission meeting was called to order.

Dave Masopust moved to approve Janet Clapp's application to erect a storage shed on condition that the jalousie windows shown in the drawing accompanying the application are replaced with windows as shown in the catalog Ms. Clapp brought with her to the meeting. Alice Burns-Decelles seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlie Thorpe moved to approve Walter Pudlo's application to remove an overhang and the floor below it. Nancy Ames seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

David Johnson moved to approve St. Paul's application with the condition that the applicant come back to the Commission for final approval as the design and site plan are developed and ensure that abutting property owners are kept informed. Furthermore, the work described in the application is to be completed within three years of the date of the meeting. Alice Burns-Decelles seconded. Dave Masopust abstained.

from voting on the application. The other Commissioners approved the application unanimously.

A vote to approve the June minutes of the Historic District Commission was deferred because several Commissioners did not receive direct email of the minutes.

Dave Masopust inquired if James Finger could provide an update on the Windham Inn. Mr. Finger reported that the town has received no plans from the owner to address the issues identified by Matt Vertefeuille, the building inspector.

The Commissioners discussed the new sidewalk in front of the Congregational Church and the house at 8 Windham Center Road. Alice Burns-Decelles reported that the members of the Congregational Church are very pleased.

James Finger shared with the Commissioners photocopies of old photographs and maps of Windham Center as well as historic structure reports prepared by Tom Beardsley. He also updated the Commissioners on the state grant to do a Historic Structures survey in Willimantic.

The Commissioners discussed the development of guidelines for property owners to be placed on the town website. Commissioners were asked to review and respond to Dave Masopust's draft. James Finger suggested using illustrations and images whenever possible.

The next meeting of the Windham Historic District Commission will be August 26, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ames