

Town of Windham

Windham Historic District Commission

Minutes: July 31, 2013

The Windham Historic District Commission held its monthly meeting on **Wednesday, July 31, 2013**, at the First Congregational Church, 4 Windham Center Road, Windham, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Chairman, William McMunn. Commissioners in attendance were Nancy Thorpe and Alice Burns-Decelles; and Alternate, David Johnson. Also present was Mr. Wayne Donaldson, Director, Buildings and Grounds, Windham Public Schools.

Minutes of previous meeting have been posted on the Town web site. No changes were made.

Mr. Wayne Donaldson met with the Commission at our request to further discuss the size and style of lights that would be installed around the north parking lot at the Windham Center School, 41 North Road. In his original proposal, Mr. Donaldson stated that the lights would be shaded to reduce potential light pollution to the area and surrounding residences. He has informed the commission that the smaller globes originally proposed were not available with shading and has suggested the larger globe, or purchasing the smaller globe shielded by painting a portion of the globe. He further explained that the smaller globes have been installed at the High School and could be viewed from both the school's parking lot and North Street. Mr. McMunn showed a scale drawing he had produced to demonstrate what the larger globes might look like and showed a drawing produced by the company to illustrate the shading. In further discussion the Commissioners stressed the importance of the shading not only on the side away from the school but at the top of the globes. No actual samples were made available from the company. Wattage was also discussed. Mr. Donaldson stated that on the North Street end of the High School property, the LED bulbs were 100 watts, and 150 watts on the High Street end. Since the Commissioners were not satisfied with the style or answers regarding shading other styles were suggested including one with a glass rather than a polycarbonate globe. The consensus among the commissioners was that the style with the glass globe was more appropriate to the surrounding area and could be an acceptable alternative as long as it could be shaded. Mr. Donaldson said he would contact the company for details but needed a decision in the next one to two weeks. He and the Commissioners would try to expedite the decision making via email.

Other Business to come before the Commission:

- Mrs. Andrychowski, 73 Windham Center Rd. will repair the existing windows instead of replacing them, so no action by the Commission is required.
- Dr. Jones, 43 Windham Center Rd. will install solar panels on the west side of the barn roof behind his house. This location is not visible from the road, so no Commission action is required.
- Michelle McGeowan now plans to present in August the required details of window and door design and placement in the new garage/in-law apartment planned to replace an existing barn/garage which will be removed at 63 Windham Center Road. Commissioners requested an opportunity to visit the property and view the size and location of the proposed new structure. Mr. McMunn will contact Michelle and schedule a site visit for August 3.

- Alice Burns-Decelles distributed copies of the Historic District Guidelines to those present and has produced enough copies so that each homeowner in the district can have a copy. It has been suggested that additional copies be distributed to local realtors for potential buyers in the Historic District.
- The location of the sign board suggested by the Commission at the corner of Windham Green and Plains Road will be discussed by the Library Board.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 28.

With no other items to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy S. Thorpe, Commissioner