

Town of Windham
Windham Historic District Commission
Minutes: March 29, 2014

William McMunn called the meeting of the Windham Historic District Commission to order at 7:30 PM. Those present included Commissioners David Masopust, David Dupuis, Alice Burns-Decelles, Nancy Thorpe; property owners Diane and Gary Jester; and Frank Valvo, a representative from Lowes. Mr. Valvo was invited by the Jesters to review with the commission, the features of the replacement windows that the Jesters were considering for their historic home at 34 Windham Center Rd. The Jesters are replacing 15 windows on the front and sides of the house.

Mr. McMunn described the concerns of the commission as well as the guidelines established by the commission. Mr. Valvo shared the following information about the windows:

- These windows are wood casing and sash with the brand name, Auralast. This is similar to pressure treated wood, pre-primed and ready for painting.
- There is a shadow line inside the dual glass panes to enhance the outline of the mullions, but not a “true divided light”. However, there is a wood mullion on the exterior as well as the interior and the Jesters are seeking to select that profile which is the same as currently on the existing windows. The mullion on the demonstration model was a flat profile, and both the commission and the Jesters agreed this was not appropriate.
- The glass is “low-e” and filled with argon gas to maintain an energy star rating.
- The windows are warranted through Loews for 20 years against moisture seal break.
- The windows qualify for tax credits, there is no sales tax, and the owners are eligible for a tax rebate.
- Exterior moldings for the window frame can be selected to match the current molding existing around the windows.

Commissioner David Dupuis recommended a “putty” mullion for the exterior.

The consensus of the commissioners was that the style is acceptable with the changes in mullions discussed. The Jesters agreed to bring a detailed proposal with pictures of the existing windows to the next meeting at which time there will be a formal public hearing on the matter.

Other items to come before the commission.

The Council of Connecticut Municipalities has announced support for dropping the requirement for newspaper notice of Historic Commission Meetings. The Town of Windham has budgeted \$9,000 for required notices in newspapers of which \$8,357 has been spent to date.

Alice Burns-Decelles confirmed that the Windham Center Congregational Church would be contracting with Willet Hauser to install Lexon panels on the exterior of the sanctuary to protect and insulate the stained glass windows; and to reglaze and paint the windows prior to the installation of the panels.

The next meeting of the Historic Commission will be April 30, 7:30 at the Windham Center School.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Thorpe