

Town of Windham
Windham Historic District Commission

**Commission Meeting Minutes:
April 24, 2013**

The Windham Historic District Commission held a commission meeting on **Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.** at the Windham Center School, 41 North Road, Windham, Connecticut.

Members and alternates in attendance: William McMunn, David Masopust, Robin Rouse, David Johnson, Alice Burns-Decelles, Nancy Thorpe.

Agenda

1. Meeting called to order by Commission Chair, William McMunn
2. Minutes of previous meeting were not read as recent meetings have been canceled for lack of business.
3. Informal discussions
 - Robin Dixon-Rouse gave a brief presentation regarding possible installation of solar electric panels on her property at 3 North Road. She referenced a preliminary proposal from CT EC Solarize. The location of the solar panels on both the main house and the ell is on the south facing slopes, facing Plains Road; and would not necessitate the any change to the architecture of the house or present roofing materials. Such panels can be removed at any time and would need to be replaced every 25 years. The members discussed the proposal informally with Mrs. Rouse and generally accept the concept of a roof installation comprised of black panels, but asked for more information and specifications prior to a formal approval.
 - Alice Burns-Decelles showed the commissioners photos of the new door on the First Congregational Church, 4 Windham Center Road, which had been approved prior to the renovation. She then went on to show photos of exterior doors and landing areas which serve the sanctuary as emergency exits. These need to have landing areas and present supports strengthened. She also suggested that the church was considering adding “shed” roofs over each of these doors to protect the landings from future water damage.
 - Alice Burns-Decelles described maintenance needed on her pool deck and showed the commission a decking material that had been selected for the project. The property is located at 29 Plains Road.
 - Chairman McMunn reviewed the status of proposed legislation permitting public hearing legal notices to be published on the town web site instead of or in addition to the present

requirement that they be published in a local newspaper. He will keep the commissioners informed.

- There has been no further communication from the owner of the Windham Inn, 4 Scotland Road and adjoining property, 10 Scotland Road at this time.

4. Other items which may properly come before the Commission.

- Regarding the application process for future requests for solar panel installations, the commission decided that an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness would be required for any type of solar system being considered.
- David Masopust initiated a discussion about increasing commission membership. Robin Dixon-Rouse agreed to continue as an alternate unless a replacement for her can be found. The commission will also seek a regular member to fill the position vacated by Everett Hyde's recent resignation.
- William McMunn informed commissioners of progress on replacing the kiosk that has been at the corner of the Green where Windham Road and Plains Road intersect. Town workers have constructed an exact replica of the wooden portion of the kiosk and are ready to reassemble that on the original iron post. Mr. McMunn has suggested that we seek a better location for the kiosk where its historic form would be appreciated more, be safer for viewing and once again serve as a center of posted information, possibly on the Green near the Windham Free Library. Once a site has been selected, the Town will inform Mr. McMunn when it is ready to put the kiosk in place.
- Alice Burns-Decelles proposed that notices describing the regulations of the Windham Historic District and process for approval of projects by home owners in the historic district once again be distributed to all residents of the district. It was agreed that steps would be taken to accomplish this.

5. Next Commission Meeting: May 29, 7:30; First Congregational Church, Windham Center.

6. Adjournment: 9:20 PM

Respectfully submitted

Nancy S. Thorpe

April 24, 2013