

East Haddam Historic District Commission

March 15, 2011

7:30 pm

River House

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the East Haddam Historic District Commission was called to order by Chairman Will Brady on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 7:35 pm at the River House .

2. Attendance

Will Brady, Chris Miller, David Nelson, Pam Rubenbauer, and Joseph Zirlis

Others Present:

Marc Walter, Richard Pettinelli, Robert Casner, Bob Smith, & Mr. Giese

3. Informal Discussion

First Selectman Walter appeared before the commission, introduced Mr. Pettinelli and stated they were there to get the commissions input on new cross walks to be installed In the East Haddam Village. First Selectman Walter stated the project was limited to 250 thousand dollars including the fees for planning and installation. Mr. Pettinelli stated they found the cross walks that worked best were ones that were well marked with visual and tactile cues. The first cross walk would be located from the town office building to the Gelston house .It is felt the shift to the new location will improve the visibility of the cross walk. Mr. Pettinelli also stated new sidewalks would connect the cross walk to the rest of the village. The other crosswalk from the sweet shop across the street. Mr. Pettinelli stated the second part of the project would be traffic control they would flip the lanes for about 6 weeks while the project was completed. Mr. Pettinelli stated they were planning on using stamped concrete for the material. Mr. Nelson suggested a red Brick Haring bone pattern be used with soldier cores in a contrasting color. Mr. Zirlis stated Branford had a similar crosswalk. Mr. Brady asked about the parking situation. Mr. Pettinelli stated the Goodspeed would loose two spaces as would the Gelston house, and the Sweet shop would loose one space. Ms. Miller asked about signs. First Selectman Walter confirmed there would be signs, he also asked about using reflectors in the pavement. Mr. Brady stated they found the reflectors get dirty and then they really don't work well.

First Selectman Walter also stated as of April 29, 2011 the Grange would become the new food bank. He also stated he wanted to revamp the old town hall, and remove the florescent lighting out front and replace it. Mr. Casner stated the parking would be moved to the back of the buildings and

the south driveway would be eliminated and moved to go straight out. It was also stated that the back of the grange would be handicapped accessible and a side walk would be added from the parking lot to the entrance. First Selectman Walter also reported the parking lot has been graded several times in preparation of the project, he also reported he asked for a stone wall to help prevent erosion of the parking lot. Mr. Brady inquired about the type of stone that would be used for the stone wall. Mr. Casner said the lighting would be like what is used in front of the town hall in Chester and go across the front. Ms. Rubenbauer raised questions about the possibility of vandalism. Mr. Nelson stated the colonial lantern is appropriate type of lighting for that area and a white wooden pole or a weathered wooden pole would both be acceptable to mount the lights on. First Selectman Walter stated the old salt building in the back would also be taken down. First Selectman also stated the town attorney said we could not put a demolition ordinance in to affect because it would seize private property for an excessive amount of time but, it could require the historic district to be notified before and demolitions take place. He also stated they were considering paving the driveway and adding crushed stone on top to give it a stone like look.

First Selectman Walter, Mr. Casner and Mr. Pettinelli left at this time.

Mr. Bower of 14 Landing Hill rd appeared before the commission he stated he would like to put on a new roof and add dormers to increase the space in the upstairs room. Mr. Nelson suggested he add dog house dormers and line them up with the existing windows. Ms. Miller also agreed that it needed two dormers because it was in keeping with the time period. Mr. Brady asked about the material to be used on the roof. Mr. Bower stated he was considering a combination of asphalt and wood shingles.

Mr. Smith appeared before the commission on behalf of Janet Kelly in relationship to C-06-10 Mr. Smith stated in order to make the changes that were approved in the application they needed to demolish the existing structure. Mr. Brady told him to put in an application stating that there would be changes made to the application of C-06-10.

Mr. Smith left at this time

Mr. Giesey Representing St. Stephens Church appeared before the commission. Mr. Giesey stated St. Stephens was interested in adding solar panels to the roof of the parish house. The panels would be installed on the side that faces the old school house. Mr. Nelson stated the commission could not prohibit the addition of solar panels if there is not another suitable place on the property to add them. Mr. Giesey stated this would be a completely separate project from the roof project.

Mr. Giesey left at this time.

Mr. Brady distributed an anti blight ordinance at this time he also distributed the demolition ordinance and a letter from the town attorney encouraging a change in the land use law.

Mr. Nelson said first Church would be coming before the commission soon with a proposal for a new sign that is substantially larger than the current sign. And they would also be proposing illumination for the sign and adding a sign to the side entrance. Mr. Nelson also stated a large mail box has appeared in front of first Church that does not belong to the church and suggested a letter be sent to the owner of the box about moving the mail box.

Mr. Brady stated the Root agency has changed hands and wants to change the name on the sign.

Ms. Rubenbauer said the economic development commission would like to place brochure boxes through out the village, they would like to start with two. Mr. Brady suggested placing the boxes on the existing signs. Mr. Nelson wondered about the color of the boxes.

4. Payment of Bills.

Ms. Wonneberger present a bill from the Hartford Courant in the amount of 160.00 Mr. Nelson made a motion to pay the bill and it was seconded by Mr. Zirlis the motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Zirlis the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm