

East Haddam Historic District Commission

June 18, 2013

7:30 p.m.

River House

Attendance:

Members

Will Brady

Chris Miller

David Nelson

Joe Zirlis

Pam Rubenbauer (alternate)

Dr. Karl Stofko (alternate)

Others

Jon Peters

Pete Simmons

Cole McCormick

Doreen Thompson

Mickie Mackenzie

Susan O'Dell

Father Adam Yates

Glen Brailman

Denny Tovey

Liz Johnson

Glen Railman

Becky Wonneberger

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the East Haddam Historic District Commission was called to order by Chairman Will Brady at 7:30pm. Chairman Brady appointed Ms. Rubenbauer (alternate) to be a voting member in place of Mr. Rossi who was absent.

Public Hearing

C-03-13 Jon Peters of 32 Main Street East Haddam is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to install a sign, an exhaust fan to be located on the roof and the addition of a covered entrance on the rear of the building. Assessor's Map 17 Lot 8.

Mr. Peters stated he had toned down the sign from when it had originally been brought before the commission. It now had a flat top and a flat bottom and he had removed the word eatery from the sign and now contained 32 Main and a coffee cup. Mr. Peters also stated the exhaust fan vent would be made of steel and made to match the roof as closely as possible in color. The vent measured approximately 18-24 inches in diameter and 18-20 inches in height. The green cards were presented at this time. Chairman Brady asked if the owner of the building was aware of the addition of a covered entrance and the addition of the exhaust fan. Mr. Peters stated the owner was aware and had approved the changes and spoken with planning and zoning about the changes. Pictures of the proposed entrance and sign were submitted. Mr. Peters stated that most of what the public would see of the covered entrance was the poles. Mr. Peters stated the covered entrance would be approximately 19 feet and was still one foot less than the set back. Chairman Brady asked for any additional comments. There being none;

A motion to approve C-03-13 was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Ms. Rubenbauer the vote carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Peters left at 7:46 pm

C-04-13 St Stephen's Church of 31 Main Street East Haddam is seeking a certificate of appropriateness for the addition of the roof to the sign to hide the down lighting and provide protection to the sign from the elements. Assessor's Map 17 Lot 12

The green cards were presented at this time. Ms. O'Dell stated St. Stephen's Church would like to add a roof to the sign in order to protect the sign from the elements and to protect the up lighting on the sign as well. Ms. O'Dell also stated she had looked at many different covered signs and was not pleased with them. Ms. O'Dell stated Ms. Johnson had come up with a design she liked and she tweaked it a little, a sketch was presented at this time. Ms. O'Dell stated she felt the sign was rather leggy so she had tried to match the wood work from the bell tower to the bottom of the sign. At this time Ms. Wonneberger discovered the tape was not working properly, the tape was replaced and Ms. O'Dell restated the plans for the record. Ms. O'Dell stated the sign would be made of cedar wood shingles with a strip of copper on top and they intended to have the pitch of the sign match that of the roof. Ms. Miller stated the sign was very beautiful and she felt it added to the building, but it would be better to make it larger.

Mr. Nelson said he had been dreading this application because of the sign being covered with a roof, however he was very impressed with the results. He felt it worked very well with the building. Mr. Nelson also stated he felt the pitch of the roof on the sign needs to be the exact pitch of the roof on the building. Mr. Zirlis stated he felt the sign enhanced the church. Dr. Stofko stated he liked the sign. Ms. Rubenbauer recused herself at this time. Chairman Brady stated a lot of church's were using part of their signs to list upcoming events and allow them to be changed. Ms. O'Dell stated that was not in the plans at this time, they would continue to use other methods to advertise for the time being.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve C-04-13, the addition of a roof to be built over the existing sign to protect it from the elements with the stipulation that the pitch of the roof be the same as the projection of the church roof. Mr. Zirlis seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Fr. Yates, Ms. O'Dell , Mr. Touvey, Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Railman left at 8:13pm.

Informal discussion

Mr. McCormick appeared before the commission to discuss a sign to be located in front of the Town Grange and Town Hall as an eagle scout project. A sketch of the new sign was presented to the commission. Chairman Brady clarified the sign would be double sided; Mr. McCormick stated it would be. Chairman Brady also stated he believed the First Selectman was interested in having a universal color for signs on municipal buildings. Mr. Nelson stated he thought the color scheme selected was green and gold. Dr. Stofko stated he preferred black and white signs. Mr. Nelson said he preferred the new sign to the one which had originally be presented He stated the font was very nice and easy to read. He found a few punctuation errors however;

- he suggested using "Farmers" vs. "farmer's" in Farmers Market
- use "4-7 pm" vs. "4:00 to 7:00 pm"
- he stated the food bank "10am" was perfect
- the word "and" could be replaced with "&" to add continuity to the sign.
- under the word food bank used a hyphen as opposed of the word "to"

Chairman Brady informed Mr. McCormick that Mr. Ventres may choose to include lighting under the same application. Mr. McCormick left at this time.

Ms. Thompson and Ms. Mackenzie of 9 Norwich Rd stated they were present to find out the rules of the Historic District Commission. Ms. Thompson also stated they were interested in possibly adding a white picket fence and an exterior staircase in the back of the house. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Brady stated that it would be beneficial to provide as much information as possible in the application and to include all possible additions, renovations changes, etc. in the application.

Ms. Thompson and Ms. Mackenzie left at 9:07 pm.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from June was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Ms. Rubenbauer. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss;

A motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m was made by Mr. Nelson. Seconded by Ms. Rubenbauer and carried by carried unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted
Rebecca J. Wonneberger