



**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD**  
**Town Hall — Fairfield, Conn.**  
**FAIRFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Fairfield Historic District Commission**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**January 21, 2010**

Legal notice of the Public Hearing to be held in the first floor Conference Room , Sullivan Independence Hall Fairfield, Ct was published in the Fairfield Citizen on January 13, 2010.

**ATTENDANCE AND DESIGNATION OF VOTING ALTERNATES**

Present: Commissioners Ellen Gould, Bruce Graham, Timothy Smith, Henry Backe, Margaret Browning, and Alternates Adam Klyver and Thomas Dailey  
Absent and recused Heather Dean.

Five (5) Commissioners will be voting on the application. No alternates will vote.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ellen Gould, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

1. First Church Congregational, 600 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT.
  - a) remove 3 lancet Tiffany window (easterly side)
  - b) enlarge 3 lancet Tiffany window
  - c) create 2 new lancet windows y window
  - d) relocate b) and c), above, to existing wood frames (westerly side)
  - e) remove 5 lancet window (westerly side)
  - f) crate and store 2 end lancets
  - g) resize and restore 3 center lancets
  - h) relocate g), to existing wood frames (easterly side)
  - i) remove Lexan glazing (easterly and westerly sides)
  - j) new laminated glass in existing aluminum frames (easterly sides)
  - k) new laminated glass in new matching aluminum frames (westerly side)

The application was presented by Attorney William Fitzpatrick of Fitzpatrick, Frey and Bologna, 1150 Post Road, Fairfield, CT. Mr. Fitzpatrick detailed the history of the application. It was first presented on August 14, 2008 at which time it was denied without prejudice. The church subsequently withdrew the application.

Christina Clark, vice moderator of the church and chairman of the committee for the Tiffany windows gave a brief history of the 3 lancet Tiffany window.

Julie Sloan, a stained glass consultant from North Adams, MA. gave a detailed presentation on the removal and replacement of the Tiffany window. She submitted color copies of the proposed windows. She explained that due to the purchase of a new organ, the 3 lancet Tiffany window would need to be relocated from the easterly side of the church to the westerly side and the 5 lancet window relocated to the easterly side. The Tiffany window would be enlarged to fit the openings on the westerly side and 2 new lancets would be created to fill the 2 extra openings. Two of the lancets from the westerly side would be crated and stored and the 3 center lancets would be resized and placed in the openings on the easterly side. The Lexan glazing on both sets of windows would be removed and replaced with 3/8 inch laminated glass. 2 layers of plywood and plaster would be placed on the inside of the easterly windows to protect the organ. The plywood behind the easterly windows would be painted white. She stated that when the Tiffany windows are taken apart, the original glass will be marked and the lead will be replaced. Attorney Fitzpatrick read the statutes governing the jurisdiction of the Historic District Commission.

Reverend David Spollett, Senior Pastor, stated that the existing Tiffany windows are not totally original. In 1940 the windows were damaged by a fire and some of the Tiffany glass was replaced. The windows were also restored between 1980 and 1984 so the Tiffany windows are not all original Tiffany glass.

Henry Backe stated that he felt an aspect that the church will be loosing is the ability to illuminate the easterly windows from the inside.

Tom Dailey felt that the historical integrity of the sets of windows is affected by enlarging them. Julie Sloan stated that they are not altering the original glass. The integrity is changed, but it is reversible.

Ellen Gould felt that the color of the catalog windows looks artificial because of the white board behind them. It was felt that a black board would look better.

Attorney Fitzpatrick stated that a white background was offered because of no back lighting.

James Lee of 1401 Unquowa Road, a church member spoke in favor of the application.

No one spoke against the application.

## **DECISION:**

Tom Dailey wanted it put on the record that he felt that windows are like paintings where you would not consider filling in borders to fit the new space. If this is done, it is impossible to tell what is original and what is not. Also his feeling is that the Commission's responsibilities are to the public. At the present time the public has the ability to view the windows lit at night and this is something that they will loose.

**MOTION:** Henry Backe made a motion to approve the application as presented with the strong recommendation that the plywood backing be painted black.

Second by Margaret Browning.

The motion was carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Tim Smith made a motion to adjourn at 5:51 p.m. Motion carried unanimously

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Polifka, Secretary