



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

APPROVED MINUTES

April 15, 2010

Special Meeting and Work Session agenda

The Fairfield Historic District Commission met on Thursday, April 15, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room of Old Town Hall, 611 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Commissioners Ellen Gould, Bruce Graham, Henry Backe, Tim Smith and Margaret Browning
Alternates Tom Dailey and Adam Klyver

Ellen called the special meeting to order at 4:35.

The special meeting was noticed in the Fairfield Citizen News on Wednesday March 31, 2010 and Friday April 02, 2010.

SHOW CAUSE HEARING

1. Pieter Van Munching, 75 Meeting House Lane, Fairfield
 - a) alleged violation: failure to submit drawings for approved flagpole showing alternate material, size, and location as stipulated in the approval on August 13, 2009. Violation letter issued on October 2, 2009.

A letter was sent by Mr. Van Munching on April 04, 2010 stating that he was unable to attend the special meeting.

Ellen Gould made a motion to continue the hearing until a later date. Second by Bruce Graham. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Matthew and Susan Rush, 224 Old Post Road, Fairfield
 - a) alleged violation: failure to remove Belgian Block Edging, denied by the Fairfield Historic District Commission on September 11, 2009.
 - b) alleged violation: failure to apply for a certificate of appropriateness for construction of a treehouse. Violation letter issued on September 10, 2009. Compliance complete (b): April 02, 2010.

Mrs. Rush called on April 09, 2010 to say she would be unable to attend the special meeting. The treehouse was removed on April 02, 2010.

Ellen Gould made a motion to continue the hearing until a later date. Second by Bruce Graham. Motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Graham made a motion to adjourn the special meeting at 4:42. Second by Henry Backe. Motion carried unanimously.

WORK SESSION

Approval of Work Session Minutes 3-18-10. Ellen Gould, Bruce Graham and Margaret Browning were the only commissioners present at the 3-18-10 meeting.

Bruce Graham made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Margaret Browning. Motion carried unanimously.

Violations Discussion

The commissioners had a lengthy discussion about whether or not a violation stays with a property once it is sold. It was decided to ask Dick Saxl, town attorney whether an existing violation is removed by the sale of the property. Also, whether there is any statute of limitations on work done without commission approval.

Chairman Gould stated that there is a 50 foot ham radio tower at 303 Beach Road. The aerial view from 2007 shows the tower. There is no record of any application to the Historic Commission for approval or any building permit application with the town building department. There was also a discussion about the flag pole on Westway Road. A violation was issued. There is a question as to when the pole was installed.

Jim Gilleran, building official, received a letter from the owner of 323 Post Road regarding the tree house. It was built in 1983. There have been subsequent site inspections and approval for additions. No one from the commission noticed the treehouse during these site inspections.

There was a discussion about Belgian Block.

The commissioners discussed ways to inform new homeowners in Historic Districts about the rules and regulations. It was felt that it is not the job of the Historic District Commission to educate realtors. It is the commission's job to uphold HDC regulations.

The commissioners discussed ways of promoting a positive public image. They decided to contact Michael Jehle , the executive director of the Historical Society.

The commissioners set the date for the Show Cause Hearings. They will be at the next regular meeting held on May 13, 2010.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Henry Backe made a motion to go into executive session at 5:52. Kathy Polifka and Madeleine Mackenzie left the room.

Executive session ended at 6:05 and Kathy and Madeleine returned.

Chairman Gould informed the Commissioners that Commissioner Browning will be revising the Southport section of the handbook to include the Spruce Street Extension

Tom Dailey agreed to look at the section of the handbook giving the dates and descriptions of the houses in the historic districts. He needs to familiarize himself with the files in order to update the listings.

Tim Smith made a motion to adjourn at 6:15. Second by Bruce Graham. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Polifka
Recording Secretary