



TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
Town Hall — Fairfield, Conn.

FAIRFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

May 19, 2011

The Fairfield Historic District Commission met on Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room of Old Town Hall, Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut.

Legal notice of the Public Hearing was published in The Fairfield Citizen News on May 11, 2011.

ATTENDANCE :

Present: Commissioners Ellen Gould, Margaret Browning and Peter Petron. Alternate Thomas Dailey

Absent: Commissioners Henry Backe and Timothy Smith
Alternate Adam Klyver

CALL TO ORDER:

Ellen Gould, Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

Margaret Browning will be the acting clerk.

Henry Backe recused himself and therefore did not attend the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Matthew Goldsmith and Cheryl Guibone, 715 Pequot Avenue, Southport

- a. new addition
- b. demolish garage
- c. new garage/new location
- d. new driveway/modifications
- e. new wall
- f. new walkways
- g. new chimney caps
- h. remove patio piers and railings
- i. new patio and stair tread surface
- j. new railing
- k. remove kitchen window

Jack Franzen, architect, presented the application. He thanked members of the commission for coming to the property to view the poles that had been installed to show the height and massing of the proposed garage. He presented revised drawings of the proposed addition and explained

the changes that had been made. He raised the roofline and added a smaller version of the main portico. He presented a site plan showing a parking area off the circular drive at the front of the house. He stated that they would be using grass pavers for this parking area. He explained that they would be concrete pavers with grass growing between. From Pequot Avenue this type of paving would appear to be grass. He also stated that the driveway would be widened from 11 feet to 14 feet to allow cars to slowly pass each other. The short sidewalk from the parking area to the addition would be bluestone. At the end of the parking area there would be a low stone wall with plantings. The sidewalks at the rear of the property would be recycled bluestone that is now on the property. The patio and treads on the steps would be repaved with bluestone and the railing would be made of wrought iron. He showed on the drawings the location of the kitchen window that would be removed. He stated that the chimney caps would be 2 - inch bluestone with brick piers. There are draft inducers on the chimneys because the flues are too small for the house. He presented a drawing of the proposed garage. It will be 20 feet further from Westway Road than the existing garage and lined up and squared with the house. Due to the current zoning, most of the existing garage sits in the setback. The profile has been reduced from the previous presentation. The material to be used on the garage will be the same as the house with a wood roof and copper flashings. There will be 2 bays and the overhead doors will be wood with divided lights. The newly proposed garage will be 3 to 4 feet taller than the existing garage. The commissioners voiced their concern with the height and massing of the proposed garage. They also felt that it would make a drastic change in the established streetscape. Thomas Dailey read several paragraphs from The Historic District Handbook.

No one spoke in favor of the application

Speaking against the application:

1. Diana Erdmann, Westway Road
2. Roberta Hodgson, Westway Road
3. Margaret Zellers of 95 Main Street, Southport
4. Ellen Riley of 158 Westway Road, Southport
5. Sharon Klammer of 406 Harbor Road speaking for The Sasquanaug Association

Margaret Browning read a letter from George Russell, president of The Sasquanaug Association speaking against the application.

Cheryl Guibone spoke stating that her family was a part of the community and not outsiders. She stated that all they are requesting is a mudroom and a garage and she has concerns that they have had to appear before the commission too many times.

Matthew Goldsmith also spoke stating that they have invested a lot of money and time repairing the house that was in a very rundown condition when they purchased it.

The commissioners spent time discussing denial of an application and denial without prejudice.

MOTION: Thomas Dailey made a motion to approve (k) as presented. Second by Margaret Browning. Voting in favor of the motion: Ellen Gould, Margaret Browning, Peter Petron and Thomas Dailey. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Thomas Dailey made a motion to approve (h), (i) and (j) as presented. Second by Margaret Browning. Voting in favor of the motion: Ellen Gould, Margaret Browning and Thomas Dailey. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Thomas Dailey made a motion to approve (g) with the stipulation that the height be lowered to the minimum required for proper flue ventilation. Second by Margaret Browning.

Voting in favor of the motion: Ellen Gould, Margaret Browning, Peter Petron and Thomas Dailey. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Thomas Dailey made a motion to deny (a), (d), (e) and (f) without prejudice. Second by Margaret Browning. Voting in favor of the motion: Ellen Gould, Margaret Browning, Peter Petron and Thomas Dailey. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Thomas Dailey made a motion to deny (b) and (c). Second by Margaret Browning. Voting in favor of the motion: Ellen Gould, Margaret Browning and Thomas Dailey. Voting against the motion : Peter Petron. Motion carried 3 to 1.

Thomas Dailey made a motion to adjourn at 7:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Polifka
Recording Secretary