

From: Lois Laczko June 8, 2011 12:58:10 PM
Subject: Historic District Commission Minutes 05/05/2011 ADOPTED
To: SimsburyCT_HistComm
Cc:

ADOPTED

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
May 5, 2011

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Kenneth Feder, Vice Chairman, called the Historic District Commission to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room at the Simsbury Town Hall. The following members were also present: Denise Alfeld, David Freitas, J. Paul Lanza, Marc Lubetkin, Dianne Mead, and Evan Woollacott. Also in attendance were Lynn Charest, Zoning Enforcement Officer and other interested parties.

II. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Vice Chairman Feder made no appointments.

Ms. Mead made a motion to alter the agenda to place Approval of Minutes after Discussion Items and include Mary Glassman as the first item under Discussion Items. Mr. Freitas seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of April 7, 2011

Ms. Alfeld made a motion to correct line #64 of the Draft Minutes from April 7, 2011, to remove 'Main Street Partnership' and replace with 'Tourism Committee' as reflected on the record. Dr. Feder seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING(s), DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE

a. Application of Richard G. Steer, Owner, for Certificate of Appropriateness to replace two existing garage doors on property located at 103 East Weatogue Street. R-30 Zone

Mr. Steer addressed the Commission as to his request to replace his non-working garage doors with a different style of door. The current doors are a 1950's style of 4 rows of panels, 4 columns wide. One horizontal row consists of a row of windows. The replacement garage door would be an insulated steel garage door, featuring a wood grain surface and well defined, raised wood panels. Mr. Steer chose a door design which has a 'sunburst' window pattern located at the top of each door. The windows at this height would provide greater security and would be less likely to be broken by hockey playing by his children.

Ms. Mead made a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Application of Richard G. Steer to replace two existing garage doors on property located at 103 East Weatogue Street. Ms. Alfeld seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Route 10 Corridor Study Update-First Selectman Mary Glassman

Ms. Glassman thanked the Commission for inviting her to present an update of the Route 10 Corridor Study. Ms. Glassman informed the Commission that the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) administers the corridor studies in the capitol region. These studies are federally funded and do require a 20% match from the corridor study community. Simsbury was not slated for a corridor study for another five (5) years, however Simsbury, having recently completed a town center charrette, alerted the folks at CRCOG that should another community not be in the position to conduct a corridor study, that Simsbury would be ready to participate. The study area runs from Avon to the south to almost the Granby border to the north along Route 10. CRCOG consulted with traffic engineers, consultants and planners to predict traffic patterns at 100% build out of this community. Currently the town is 85% developed leaving 15% growth of the town left. The Council created post cards which were mailed to every household in the town to encourage the open process of the Route 10 Corridor Charrette. Ms. Glassman stated that more than 100 people participated in the charrette where all comments, concerns and ideas were recorded. The consultants reviewed and organized the residents' ideas and have presented their findings to the Route 10 Corridor Steering Committee for their review and consideration.

The Steering Committee meets regularly to review the proposals to address the future impacts to Route 10. Each proposal is looked at for its cost factors, permitting processes, impacts on the environment and archeological sensitivity as a way to see if the suggestion has merit. The Steering Committee will rank each suggestion based on their review and present their

findings to the Board of Selectmen no later than September 2011. Ms. Glassman stated that the current state of the economy has allowed Simsbury time to plan for future needs and she encouraged all Historic District Commission members to attend the Steering Committee meetings in the future.

b. Historic District Commission Strategic Plan Review-Marc Lubetkin

Mr. Lubetkin distributed a copy of the 'Strategic Plan Update, 9/20/10' to the members (copy attached). Mr. Lubetkin read on the record all the items listed on the plan. Most members were in agreement with the plan in general, however concern about expanding their role beyond what is stated in the Ordinance Establishing a Historic District and Historic District Commission was mentioned. The members did discuss their continued desire to get the word out that they are the town designated historic preservation advisory board, with many available resources. Next steps were discussed such as a timeline to reach the goals discussed in the plan and distribution of tasks to the members. Mr. Lubetkin agreed to take the next steps to present a timeline and task list to the members.

Ms. Mead made a motion that Mr. Lubetkin continue to look at the Strategic Plan for the Historic District Commission and produce an action plan for the Commission. Ms. Alfeld seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

a. Nominations for Election of Officers

HDC Staff, Lynn Charest, encouraged the members to think about nominations for elections of officers which must be done annually. In accordance with the Rules and Procedures, nominations will be for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk (or Secretary).

Mr. Woollacott made a motion to carry the election of officers to the June 2, 2011, Regular Meeting. Ms. Mead seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

b. Discussion of grant funding-
Historic District Commission Staff was asked status of state and/or federal funding to proceed with
another historic inventory of the town's historic structures.

Ms. Mead made a motion for HDC Staff, Lynn Charest, to take the next step to explore grant funding for a historic resources inventory. Ms. Alfeld seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Lubetkin stated his idea to create an 'emeritus' position on the Historic District Commission for members who are no longer appointed to the commission but have historic preservation knowledge and for the commission to be able to call on them in an advisory capacity.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Woollacott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Ms. Mead seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Charest