

From: Lois Laczko December 7, 2009 10:13:25 AM
Subject: Historic District Commission Minutes 11/05/2009 ADOPTED
To: SimsburyCT_HistComm
Cc:

ADOPTED

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING
November 5, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

Elizabeth Woollacott, Chairman, called the Historic District Commission to order at 7:38 p.m. in the Main Meeting Room of the Simsbury Town Offices. The following members were also present: Marc Lubetkin, Kenneth Feder and Diane Mead. Also in attendance were Lynn Charest, Zoning Enforcement Officer and other interested parties.

II. APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

Chairman Woollacott appointed Mr. Lubetkin to serve in the absence of Mr. Woollacott.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of October 1, 2009 regular meeting

Dr. Feder made a motion to approve the October 1, 2009 minutes as written. Ms. Mead seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Regarding 96 East Weatogue Street, Ms. Charest stated that the property owner has constructed a shed/garage on their property without any permits. She stated that she has sent them a "Welcome to the District" letter in order to start some dialogue with them. The Guidelines were also sent along with this letter. She has not heard back from the homeowner as of yet.

Mr. Lubetkin stated that he has seen the shed that the homeowner put up; it is a high quality shed. The color is very dark. He feels that the location of the shed will be fine.

Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant – RFP

Ms. Charest distributed the five responses to the RFP. There will be a special meeting on Thursday, November 12th in order to discuss these responses. Mr. Peck will attend this special meeting to help guide the Commission members through this selection process.

Mr. Lubetkin suggested making a checklist of the respondents who are qualified and not qualified for each category. He feels that the Commission should have criteria of why a certain firm has been chosen to do the work. Dr. Feder stated that he assumes all of the firms will have met the minimum requirements. The Commission agreed that all of this information can be discussed at the special meeting.

Dr. Feder suggested making the survey known once a firm is hired by having an article printed in the local newspaper.

V. OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Chairman Woollacott stated that Mr. Peck is looking for an endorsement from the Historic District Commission to transfer funding, a minimum of \$5,000, in order to get Code Studio back to Simsbury prior to finalizing the Town Center code.

Mr. Lubetkin questioned what the purpose was for getting Code Studio back to Simsbury. Ms. Charest stated that the consultant would be coming back to Town in order to meet with Town staff and to see the progress they have made. She stated that many of the Boards and Commissions have endorsed this transfer of funds, although the Zoning Board of Appeals has endorsed this with a cap of \$10,000 on the amount.

Mr. Lubetkin made a motion that the Historic District Commission supports Mr. Peck's request to transfer a minimum of \$5,000 in order to get Code Studio back to Simsbury. Ms. Mead seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Regarding the strategy plan for the Historic District Commission, Mr. Lubetkin suggested inviting the Chairs of the other Boards and Commissions that are relevant of their strategy, in order to discuss their progress. He feels that it would be best to share what this Commission has been doing with other Boards and Commissions because it impacts them when they ask the HDC's opinion regarding historic structures. Ms. Mead suggested putting this information into a written report for the other Boards and Commissions. They can then come back with any comments or questions they may have.

Ms. Charest stated that she attended a meeting with approximately 30 property owners whose properties were not slated to change within the Charrette Master Plan. Mr. Peck has explained to them two different options to address keeping the historic character downtown: by establishing a Village District for the Center Zone; or to make it an Historic District

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mead made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Dr. Feder seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Elizabeth Woollacott, Chairman