Design Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 22, 2014
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Deep River Town Hall
Attendees: Pamela Potter, Mike Cole, Jeff Hostetler, Peter Howard, Alan Paradis, Victoria Su, Sue Watts
Guests: Corky and Marsalla Sassi

Agenda:

- 1. 198 Main Street new garage
- 2. DAB Alternates
- 3. New Business

Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 6:30.

198 Main Street

Jane Mather presented her proposed new garage at 198 Main Street. The garage is located at the approximate location of a recently demolished accessory residential structure.

The proposed garage is set back from the street and does not significantly affect the streetscape or views from the public way. The proportions, scale, materials and character were considered to be in keeping with typical residential accessory structures. The applicant was asked to consider the scale of the round top window on the elevation facing Main Street. This second floor window was out of scale with the rest of the fenestration on the building. It was recommended that the window could be reduced in size by 50 to 75% and/or the top of the window could have a lower profile, similar to the arch on the cupola.

The Design Advisory Board was in favor of the applicants proposed garage with the single exception of the second floor window facing Main Street.

The previously demolished structure was discussed relative to the potential to loose essential building fabric within the village districts under the present requirements for design review. Presently, there is no design review required for the demolition or partial demolition of structures. Presently, a design review is only triggered by the need for a zoning review. It has been recommended previously that design review should be required as a function of construction or demolition activity and not be determined as a result of land use.

DAB Alternates

The recommendation has been made to the Selectmen to expand the Design Advisory Board to include alternates in order to include additional members to meet quorum and to expand the perspective and expertise on the Board. Mary-Lynn Radych from Centerbrook Architects was proposed as a candidate to expand the Board.

New Business:

At the request of the Selectmen, the Design Advisory Board will participate on the Firehouse Building Committee. Alan Paradis attended the first meeting of the new Committee.

The Firemen have done considerable work to date to determine the needs of the fire department and potential sites. Alan Paradis offered the resources of the entire DAB to further this effort. He will serve as the conduit between the groups over the next few months.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 PM

Minutes compiled by: Alan Paradis