

## MILTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Special Meeting on  
May 19, 2016

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Milton Public Hall.

Attendees: Chairman Mark Heilshorn, Malcolm Forbes, Carol Metro and Chad Mitchell  
Guests: Raz Alexe, Director of Public Works and Town Engineer, Jim Silva of Cardinal Engineering Associates, Kristen Orr, Dick Benton, Rick and Susan Latos, Anthony Pangaro, Anne Deering, Frank Jansky, John Baker, Edward Weik, Kitty Wright, Carol Bramley, Adrienne Barbe, Tim Walch, Edmund Sulzman, Jon Glanz, Bill and Laura Dunn, Roger Leifert, and Michael Eanes.

Mark Heilshorn welcomed the guests and thanked them for coming to the Milton Historic District Commission. The Chair made it clear that this meeting would focus solely on preliminary plans to repair or replace the bridge in the center of Milton. If anyone came to the meeting with other concerns, they should hold their questions or comments until such issues are brought up. The chair then introduced Raz Alexe who stressed the fact that no plans had yet been submitted to the State and he wanted to hear from the residents of Milton how they feel about the bridge. He then introduced Jim Silva, representing Cardinal Engineering Associates (CAP), who made the presentation.

CAP considered 3 alternatives: #1 Just repair the bridge; #2 Rehabilitate the bridge by reinforcing the abutments; and #3 Replacing the bridge entirely with new pilings and altered sluiceway. Whatever is to be done, the State code requires that the bridge survive at least an expected 10-year flood and ideally withstand a 100-year flood. Given the projected cost of the #1 and #2 alternatives, #3 is the best and most economical engineering choice.

Many questions were asked and comments made. One issue was the probability of a 10+ year flood and the resulting damage to the bridge: as it stands now, there is no doubt that the bridge abutments would be undermined and potential for the bridge to be carried away by the water. Another important issue was the proposed length of the new bridge (40' vs current 22.5') and the proposed width of 24' to accommodate two cars passing at the same time on the bridge. The engineers allowed as how the bridge could possibly be shortened and narrowed, providing the strength is maintained. Considerable criticism was voiced concerning the side rails/barriers on and leading up to the bridge. The consensus was that they should blend into the surroundings and NOT be massive or ugly. No objection was raised to the angle of the water flow under the bridge to increase capacity and reduce scouring.

Raz Alexe then summed up the evening by thanking people for their willingness to share their ideas and feelings with him and the engineering contractors. He assured us all that we had provided excellent feedback and it was now up to the team of engineers to revise the plans to reflect the suggestions received so as to best maintain the rural and historic nature of Milton.

The Chair declared the informational meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. and thanked everyone for coming.

The Chair reconvened the meeting of the Commission at 8:34 p.m. to consider one item of New Business on the agenda.

Application #299      Alteration of the residence of Mark Heilshorn, 32 Headquarters Road, Litchfield to replace the south facing outside wall in the rear of the house with French doors and two 6over6 windows in order to give direct access to the rear terrace. Same shingle siding will be used. Gerry Smith is the local contractor. Mitchell moved that the application be approved, seconded by Metro and was passed by all, excluding the Chair, who recused himself.

Minutes of the minutes of the meeting on April 21, 2016 were distributed. Metro made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Mitchell and was passed without dissent.

Old Business:

There being no correspondence or other matters of business to be brought before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Malcolm Forbes, Secretary