

NORTH COVE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
JULY 30, 1997

Members present: Leighton Lee, Chairperson, Barbara Lincoln, Clerk, Carol Maxwell, Harold Elrod, Alternate.

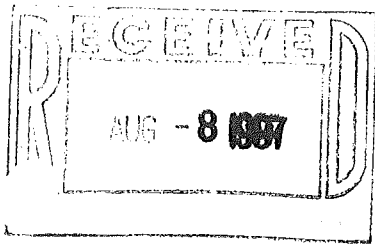
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Leighton Lee, Chairperson.

A motion was approved to have the minutes of the Spring Meeting, held on April 17, 1997, read at the next public hearing of this Commission. The minutes for the Spring Meeting were not readily available because Barbara Lincoln's computer had broken down. It was noted that these minutes had been timely filed with Sarah Becker, Clerk, at the Old Saybrook Town Hall.

An update of the Frank Stevenson memorial was presented by Louise Tietjen. The volunteers for this activity are Louise Tietjen, Barbara Lincoln and Elizabeth David. Two ideas were presented. A bench with concrete sides and a wood slat back and seat, possibly painted green, with a brass plaque. A letter from Laurence F. Reney, First Selectman, to Louise Tietjen was presented by Barbara Lincoln, stating the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Old Saybrook on May 2, 1997 unanimously agreed "the positioning of a bench, to be purchased, installed and maintained by the North Cove Historic District, in honor of Frank Stevenson, on Town Land in the North Cove area" should be endorsed. The suggested location was the dinghy area on North Cove Road. The boat launch area was also discussed. The concrete sides appear to eliminate the need to have the bench bolted down citing a commemorative bench of similar construction existing in the Fenwick area. A second commemorative bench was suggested for Rose Labriola, a long-term resident of North Cove Road who recently passed away. The pricing presented was for two benches at approximately \$370, including the brass plaques. It was noted wrought iron bench(s) may be available from the Chamber of Commerce. The second idea was a tree with a plaque to be indicative of Frank's love and care of the landscape of the North Cove area. A potential location was the existing grass median at the entrance of North Cove Road.

An open discussion was held with Ross Byrne, Harbor Management Chairman of Old Saybrook, who described an offer made by Richard Maslar of North Cove Road to supply at *no cost* steel posts, 20-24 inches high, 10-12 inches exposed, to replace the existing wood posts at the dinghy area on North Cove Road. Harbor Management would explore funding, including but not limited to, a wooden railing (4"dx6"h) and wooden planking (2x6) to cover the top of the steel posts. Ron Baldi, Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation, would perform site preparation. It was noted a landscaper has been hired for this dinghy area due to its historically unkept condition. Residents described concern with the use of steel as a material not in keeping with the historical nature of the area and concern with changing *any* aspect of the dinghy area including landscaping, cutting wildflowers and replacing posts and/or lines.

Mr. and Mrs. William DiBella along with William Plyler, contractor, presented an application for modifications to the Certificate of Appropriateness granted April 2, 1997 for renovation to their barn located at 91 North Cove Road. Plans depicting the modifications were prepared 7/29/97 by their architect, Design Group One Architects, L.L.C. of Chester, CT. Modifications included eliminating the pedestrian door and instead moving the east side existing hay door from the second level to the center of the first level of the east side, adding two true divided light, double-hung, 12x12 wood windows on the second level of the east and west side of the barn, openings for the windows are 5'x4'9''; addition of two wood vents above both sets of windows on the east and west side of the barn and change the design of the garage doors from a



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hay loft door design to a three vertical panel design with two rows of three pane windows on top, each garage door measuring 8'x8', representing no change in size. Exterior will be 4" clapboard and the roof will be architectural grade shingles. Windows shown on south elevation on the plans are a drafting error. William Plyler presented that the front northeast elevation and the post and beam construction has been maintained. It was noted that the DiBella's have a hearing scheduled on August 13, 1997 with Old Saybrook Zoning for zoning variances with respect to this barn.

Barbara Lincoln presented the followup on enhancing communication within the Historic District by distributing copies of the bylaws with a "handbook" and "Guidelines for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties" and "20 Preservation Briefs, The Preservation of Historic Barns" both from the U.S. Department of the Interior. Thanks and appreciation were expressed to Barbara Aubin, Vice Chair, for all her efforts in producing the copies for residents in the District. In addition, Louise Tietjen has taken photographs of existing properties in the District to provide a point of reference; and Barbara Lincoln will continue this effort by providing copies to residents along with an updated mailing list and copies of the properties and descriptions from literature when the District was formed. Residents also indicated it would be helpful if real estate agents disclosed to buyers this is a Historic District.

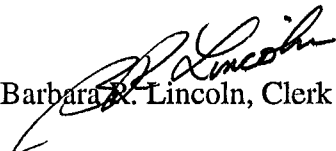
The public hearing was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

The Special Meeting was called to order at 9:35 p.m. The commemorative bench for Frank Stevenson for placement in the dinghy area was unanimously approved with modification. Modification was the concrete sides were not approved. Materials approved were wood and/or wrought iron.

There was a unanimous vote to take no action with respect to *any* changes to the dinghy area. Approval will require formal submission of an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness.

There was a unanimous vote to defer a decision on the DiBella application of July 22, 1997 until Zoning of the Town of Old Saybrook has an opportunity to review or 65 days whichever comes first. It was also unanimously agreed that the architect drawings of July 29, 1997 described in the minutes of the public hearing on July 30, 1997 are adequate for the Commission's purposes.

The Special Meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.


Barbara R. Lincoln, Clerk