

Wayland Historic District Commission
October 21, 2010

Present: Gretchen Schuler (chair), Margery Baston, Kevin Crowley, Chris Hagger, George Ives, Kathie Steinberg

Others present: Woody Baston, Diane Goodermote, Tom Sciacca

Public Comment

Woody Baston noted in a recent publication that the equipment from the PSB basement may be moved to the roof.

Minutes of the July 16, 2010 HDC meeting were edited and accepted. It was moved that the minutes be accepted. (5-0-1)

Public Hearing - 18 Winthrop Road – Reconsideration of painting of fence. Chris Hagger recused himself because he is an abutter to the property. Diane Goodermote was present to discuss the 2005 Certificate of Appropriateness that stated that the fence was to “be painted or stained white, to match the house.” Diane brought old photos of house. While the Goodermotes owned the house the aluminum siding was removed and they found that the shingles were in good shape. The first cedar fence fell down. Diane admitted she would prefer not to paint the fence. Her choice would be to leave it natural. Diane is moving on November 12th. Gretchen said that for the period of the house there would not have been a large fence, but being on route 20 a fence is needed. However, a fence would have been painted. Kathie made the point that a natural fence seems to recede somewhat from view. The height of the fence is particularly high – when the previous owners put up the fence, the house was not in the HD. Gretchen asked for comments from the public (Chris and Woody). Chris had his fence replaced in the 1990’s and the HDC required that the fence be stained or painted. Chris just had his fence re-painted and it butts up to this unpainted fence. He also felt the HDC should be consistent in its decision making – otherwise it can send the wrong signal to property owners. Chris also pointed out that these two properties are linked architecturally. Gretchen agreed with part of what Chris said – but pointed out that every case has to be reviewed individually. However, she did agree that the period of the house calls for a painted fence. Kathie made the motion to approve the application to not stain or paint the fence. Kevin seconded. This motion was denied. (1-4-0).

Diane informed the Commission that the proposed owners may want to put in another (perhaps higher) fence. (It was pointed out to Diane that anything over six feet would require a building permit.) When asked when the painting could be done, Gretchen said that it could be done when the temperature is over 55 degrees and under 90 degrees. Kevin said that painting can often be done into November.

Diane felt that it would be good for the HDC to have an actual tour of the older houses in the HD and she offered to give the HDC members a tour of her home. Kathie asked what

times were good; and Diane responded, “The first week in November.”

Stretch Code. There seemed to be a consensus on the Commission that this code does not apply to the HD. “We do not have a horse in this race.” There will be no comment on the warrant article for the Stretch Code from the HDC and Gretchen will notify Bill Huss (Chair of Energy Committee) of this decision.

Minutes of the September 30th HDC meeting were reviewed and approved. George moved that the edited minutes be approved and Kevin seconded. (4-0-1) Chris Hagger abstained.

Public Hearing for Twenty Wayland, LLC to withdraw the new application for “Traffic Improvements” at Routes 20/126/27. Four could vote. George moved that the letter from Twenty Wayland, LLC be accepted. The HDC accepted that the new application on traffic improvements received on Aug. 9, 2010 be withdrawn. (4-0)

Chris Hagger asked for 5 minutes or longer. Chris expressed his concern with the HDC’s decision on the traffic improvements. On a safety basis it is going to be horrific. Chris felt that his neighbors’ voices were not heard. Gretchen spoke of the two most important issues to the HDC currently: the location of control box and the sidewalk down Old Sudbury Road.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Margery Baston