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Farmington Historic District Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2016

Present at this meeting was Chair Donald, Commissioners Calciano and Cox and Alternate Commissioners Charette and O'Leary and Town Planner and Clerk. Chair Donald called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Acting Secretary Cox read the legal notice into the record. Alternate Commissioner Charette was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Bombara and Alternate Commissioner O'Leary was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Holden.

PUBLIC HEARING

Brickwalk Shops LLC – 2 High Street

Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to install air conditioning condenser unit at 2 High Street. Patrick Downend proposed to install the air conditioning condenser unit in a corner of the building facing Farmington Avenue. Town Planner Warner stated once the State is done with the proposed improvements to Farmington Avenue the building will be an addition 25 feet from the edge of the roadway. There was a brief discussion about alternate locations. Mr. Downend commented he will screen the unit with boxwood or some sort of evergreen.

There was no public comment in favor or in opposition to this application.

The public hearing closed at 4:12 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Calciano/Cox) it was unanimously

VOTED: To grant the Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to install air conditioning condenser unit as per plant presented and on file in the Planning Office at 2 High Street.

Brickwalk Shops LLC – 14 Brickwalk Lane

Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace the front door at 14 Brickwalk Lane. Patrick Downend presented two door replacement options to the Commission. One option proposes a single door with the existing trim and transom window. The second option proposes one door with side panels, existing trim and transom window. Chair Donald commented she read through the Fire Marshal's report and does not disagree with the code violation of the front door. She then asked the applicant if he considered replacing the existing doors with two doors of different widths; one door 28" to meet the fire code requirement and the second door approximately 20" wide. A discussion regarding replacement door options ensued. Commissioner Calciano commented there were likely other code issues in the building and that the Mr. Downend could likely obtain a modification from the State Fire Marshal to retain the existing doors. Mr. Downend stated that he was not comfortable obtaining a modification from the State Fire

Marshal because of the risk associated with residences in the building, safety comes first. He added the front door he is seeking to replace and bring up to code is the only door on the building. Commissioner Cox commented she was comfortable with the replacement door option presented. Commissioners Charette and Calciano commented they wanted to exhaust all options, including seeking a modification from the State Fire Marshal to keep the existing doors. Commissioner O'Leary said she liked that the plan included retaining the existing trim and transom window but was not comfortable with the replacement door. Chair Donald suggested the applicant look into replacing the non-code compliant double doors with two new doors; one code compliant width and the other door whatever size is needed to fill the existing opening. The smaller door could possibly remain closed or fixed in place and used if larger objects are moved into/out of the building. Mr. Downend responded he will get options for new double doors. There was additional discussion about retaining the same raised panel design of the existing doors. Town Planner Warner said a special meeting can be scheduled once Mr. Downend has information to present to the Commission. The Fire Marshal will be provided an update on the Commission's requests.

There was not public comment in favor or in opposition to this application.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Calciano/Cox) it was unanimously

VOTED: To continue this matter until the applicant submits the information requested. A special meeting will be scheduled at that time.

STAFF REPORT

No staff report.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

MINUTES

Upon a motion made and seconded (Cox/Charette) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the December 15, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

SJM