

Unionville Historic District and Properties Commission
November 12, 2020
DRAFT: Minutes

Present: Lisa Johnson, Bob Hoffman, Sherry Horton, Howard Martin, Barbara Marsh (alternate), Matt Ross (alternate) and Shannon Rutherford (Acting Town Planner)
Also present Ann Vibert-Wuelfing

Absent: John Brockelman

Barbara Marsh voting for John Brockelman.
Matt Ross voting for Bob Hoffman for COA.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by Lisa Johnson.

Approval of Minutes:

October 22, 2020 minutes – as amended with two corrections (Horton/Martin/all)
(M/S/A)

Public Hearing for Certificate of Appropriateness for 48 Cottage St.

The hearing opened at approximately 7:05pm.

Shannon Rutherford read the legal notice into the record.

Bob Hoffman corrected the legal owners of the property – Robert Hoffman and Margaret Sweet-Hoffman. Bob Hoffman then presented the application for the installation of 3 ft x 5 ft walkway to be located at the bottom of the homes' front stairs and will connect to the driveway. The walkway shall be constructed out of cobblestones. Photos were provided showing the location of the walkway. Specification sheets were provided showing the cobblestone. Cobblestones were selected for their durability and heft, given the water runoff in this location.

The Commission members provided comments regarding the uneven surface that cobblestones can present; however, noted that there was no objection to their use in this instance. It was noted that the age and appearance of the home would be compatible with differing types of block for the walkway and that the cobblestones were certainly compatible. (During the review of comments from the Commission, we found that Bob Hoffman was no longer on the call / zoom meeting. Matt Ross was able to reach Bob and learned that Bob's internet connection had failed and he was not able to restore the connection before the end of the meeting.)

No comments were received from the public.

Lisa Johnson closed the hearing at approximately 7:20pm.

Barbara Marsh made a motion to approve as presented, noting that the applicant can choose to modify the type of block for the walkway and the modification would be reviewed via email by the Commission members, Sherry Horton seconded, all approved unanimously.

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Study Committee Expansion Report

Shannon provided an update to the Commission regarding the status of the report. At the request of Mary Dunne, State Historic Preservation Officer, some minor changes were made to the report to include the Lovely St. properties in the Lovely-Main Historic District. It is anticipated that this will be reviewed at their November meeting.

Expansion List:

Cardillo - 142 Lovely St.
Kemper / Tontanella – 132 Lovely St.
Karsky- 111 Lovely St.
Berry – 796 Plainville Ave.

Educational Meeting

Lisa Johnson has spoken with her HVAC contractor, Air Serve. They were pleased to be asked to conduct an educational meeting and are excited to work with us. Lisa will be following up with them to coordinate a date in February / March.

Matt Ross is meeting with Bob Sanford next week to discuss the topic of building materials with him and to coordinate a presentation date.

These presentations would be two separate educational presentations. We discussed the notification process for the meeting – it will include mailings to the UHD members, FHD members, and will be noticed via Everbridge, the town website and Explore Farmington.

Other Business:

- Confirmed that election of officers will take place at the December 3rd meeting.
- Lisa introduced the Commission to the Witness Stones Project, it is currently being implemented in Guilford and West Hartford. There was a general discussion about the project.
- Shannon shared information about the upcoming Midpoint Development project with the commission.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44PM SKR