

FARMINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING

May 17, 2022

Present for the online web conference was Chair Honeyman, Commissioners Bombara, Calciano, Hatzenbuhler, Phelan and Alternate Commissioners Gemski, Renehan (at 5:28pm) and Sanford. Town Planner Rutherford and Clerk Michaud were also present. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. Town Council Liaison Connolly was also present.

Present in the Development Wing Conference Room were Town Planner Rutherford and Clerk Michaud. All others were present online.

Secretary Calciano read the legal notice into the record.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Sign Pro Inc. – 32 Main Street**

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace face of existing signs at 32 Main Street. Tracy Becker, Sign Pro Inc., presented the new M&T Bank branding change to the existing People’s Bank free standing sign panel. The “ENTER” “EXIT” signs will also be replaced with the new brand colors. The enter/ exit signs will be moved to the inside edges of the driveway to improve visibility of these directional signs. The Commissioners had no questions but offered complimentary comments on the change.

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

The public hearing closed at 5:08 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Bombara/Sanford) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Sign Pro Inc. application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace face of existing signs at 32 Main Street and relocate enter/exit signs as submitted, presented and on file in the Planning Office.

**Robert J. Mandel – 93 Main Street**

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace asphalt walkway with brick walkway at 93 Main Street. Joyce Mandel presented the request to replace the front walkway with brick as it was many years ago. She spoke to photos of other brick walkways on the property. The only clarifying question from the Commission was confirmation that the proposed brick walkway will be true bricks. Mrs. Mandel responded yes.

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

The public hearing closed at 5:14 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Bombara/Hatzenbuhler) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Robert J. Mandel application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace asphalt walkway with brick walkway at 93 Main Street as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

Miss Porter's School – 2 Mountain Road

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace garage windows at 2 Mountain Road (a.k.a.2-A Mountain Road). Katie Bradley presented the application stating the second-floor windows of the garage are proposed to be replaced with Harvey aluminum clad wood windows with the 6 over 6 to match existing windows. Photos were provided for clarification and the Commission recommended the simulated divided lite bars be 5/8". There were no other concerns for the project voiced.

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

The public hearing closed at 5:18 p.m.

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

VOTED: To approve the Miss Porter's School application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace garage windows at 2 Mountain Road (a.k.a.2-A Mountain Road) as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

Miss Porter's School – 7 Mountain Road

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace barn windows at 7 Mountain Road. Katie Bradley presented the application stating the same windows, Harvey aluminum clad 6 over 6 are proposed on this building. All the windows on the older portion of the barn will be replaced. No concerns were expressed by the Commission and they felt little of it would be visible from Main Street or Mountain Road.

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

The public hearing closed at 5:23 p.m.

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

VOTED: To approve the Miss Porter's School application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace barn windows at 7 Mountain Road as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

Miss Porter's School – 59 and 63 Main Street

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace roofs at 59 and 63 Main Street. Katie Bradley used photos of these two buildings and stated they would like to replace the roof material on both. 59 Main Street they are proposing to use an IKO Performance (Monaco Red) shingle to replace the existing red shingled roof. At 63 Main Street they are proposing to replace the roof material with Timberline GAF (Charcoal) shingles keeping the same color/look of the building.

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

The public hearing closed at 5:27 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Bombara/Hatzenbuhler) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the Miss Porter's School application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace roofs at 59 Main Street with IKO Performance (Monaco Red) shingles and 63 Main Street with Timberline GAF (Charcoal) shingles as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

Miss Porter's School – 80 Main Street

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace fence, add frontage sidewalk, replace patio, replace steps, add railing and light along steps and walkway at 80 Main Street. Katie Bradley started her presentation with photos of the existing rail fence and asked to replace with a split rail fence of the same height, same location except she proposes to move the fence 8 feet from the curb on Mill Lane. Ms. Bradley next presented the proposal to install a 30" sidewalk along Mill Lane connecting to the sidewalk on Main Street for pedestrian access at the intersection. She asked for feedback from the Commission on their preference of asphalt or concrete. The existing brick patio area has become uneven and will be replaced with bricks to match the northside of the building, remaining the same size, correcting the unevenness. Also proposed is the replacement of the existing path and steps to the rear of the house. The new steps will be code complaint for rise and run, a simple handrail will be installed and the low lighting will be replaced along the steps/walkway. The Commissioners offered feedback and comments regarding the various components of the application. The consensus was the proposed split rail fence was most appropriate for the age and style of the home, the new sidewalk material preferred was concrete and the width preferred should be ADA compliant, five-foot width. General confirmation/clarification discussion took place regarding materials for the patio, steps and walkway. Extensive details were provided by a contractor in the proposal/estimate provided with the application packet.

Written correspondence was received from Parker Seifts, May 17, 2022, asking the Commission to consider the proposed new sidewalk material match the Main Street concrete sidewalk.

Town Council Liaison Connolly asked for clarification if the rear steps would be ADA compliant. Ms. Bradley responded no because the grade does not work to the rear but the main entrance to the house is accessible.

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

The public hearing closed at 5:50 p.m.

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

VOTED: To approve the Miss Porter's School application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace fence, add frontage sidewalk, replace patio, replace steps, add railing and light along steps and walkway at 80 Main Street with the condition the new sidewalk is ADA compliant 5 ft width and concrete, as presented and on file in Planning Office.

Miss Porter's School – 54 and 60 Main Street

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace apron at 60 Main Street, ramp at 54 Main Street and sidewalk between the two buildings. Katie Bradley used photos to clarify their request to replace the brick and bluestone apron in front of 60 Main Street. They proposed to also add four decorative bollards to prevent vehicles from driving onto the apron and prevent the planters from being hit. At 54 Main Street they are proposing to pull up the asphalt between the building and the sidewalk and install a bluestone and brick pattern area to match 60 Main Street. Ms. Bradley proposed to also replace the temporary metal ramp with a permanent brownstone and brick ADA ramp at the southern step and a simple iron railing on the ramp to match the railings at 60 Main Street. The Commissioners offered complimentary comments on the proposals and thanked Ms. Bradley for the completeness of her applications.

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

The public hearing closed at 6:09 p.m.

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

VOTED: To approve the Miss Porter's School application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace apron at 60 Main Street, ramp at 54 Main Street and sidewalk between the two buildings as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

The Commissioners wish Katie Bradley a happy retirement and thanked her for her support and contributions to the district over the years.

**STAFF REPORT**

Hartford Baking Company

Staff has reached out to the business owner to follow-up on the outstanding issue of the entry door and a new submission has been made. The application will be heard at the next meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Miss Porter's School – 63 Main Street

Katie Bradley presented informally for feedback from the Commission regarding replacement of the brownstone steps and reset the railing at 63 Main Street (Humphrey Dorm). The brownstone steps are worn, and one is broken so they are going to replace them and they were told due to the width of the steps the railings should be moved inside the columns. The alternative they don't believe will work, is to install a center railing. Town Planner Rutherford asked the Commission for consensus on the requirement of a full application. After some discussion about the project, it was the consensus of the Commission that the proposed change was a design change and that Miss Porter's School submit an application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness for the next meeting.

**MINUTES**

April 19, 2022 Minutes

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

VOTED: To approve the April 19, 2022 Farmington Historic District Commission meeting minutes.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

*SJM*

DRAFT