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Farmington Historic District Commission

Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2017

Present at this meeting was Chairman Bombara, Commissioners Cox, Haviland, Holden (in at 4:12 p.m.) and Alternate Commissioners Charette and O'Leary and Town Planner and Clerk. Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Alternate Commissioner Charette was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Donald. Alternate Commissioner O'Leary was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Calciano.

PUBLIC HEARING

Miss Porter's School, Inc. – 66 Main Street

Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to install a "free library" structure at 66 Main Street. Katie Bradley introduced freshman student Lauren Schramm. Ms. Schramm presented the application. She explained that students from the InterMission Turning the Page class designed and constructed the "free library" to help promote reading among children and the community. Ms. Schramm provided information about the Turning the Page class and the Little Free Library website. This structure will be registered on the Little Free Library website which provides a map indicating the location of "free library" structures. The "free library" was designed in keeping with Miss Porter's School buildings and will be mounted on a wood post.

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

The public hearing closed at 4:09 p.m.

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

VOTED: To approve the Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to install the "Free Library" structure at 66 Main Street as presented and on file in the Planning Office.

NEW BUSINESS

St. Patrick's Church

Father Barry spoke informally with the Commission about potential future improvements to address the needs of the church. No formal plans have been developed but he hopes to be back with a formal application at some point in the future.

STAFF REPORT

No Staff Report.

OTHER BUSINESS

113 Main Street - Update

A letter was sent to the property owner of 113 Main Street in response to concerns raised by the Commission at the last meeting. The property owner contacted the Town Planner and will be submitting a comprehensive application for work that has been done and work they would like to do in the Spring.

13 Colton Street - Update

A letter was sent to the property owner of 13 Colton Street in response to concerns raised by the Commission at the last meeting. The property owner has contacted the Planning Office and will be submitting photos of the new shed and of the old shed that was removed. There was some discussion about whether or not the shed is visible from the roadway.

5 Carrington Lane

The Commission asked if this parcel is part of the Historic District because some pipes have been installed on the house as a result of some sort of HVAC work and although it matches the color of the house an application was not submitted for review. Photos were submitted for review.

Temporary Certificates of Appropriateness

The Commission discussed the possibility of setting an expiration date on Temporary Certificates of Appropriateness. They felt if a property owner did not begin work approved by the Commission within a five year period they would need to come back to the Commission for re-approval. The Commission feels a lot can change in a neighborhood in a five year period of time and the proposed project may no longer be appropriate. Town Planner Warner will draft document changes necessary for the proposed expiration date for the Commission to consider.

MINUTES

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

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the January 17, 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

SJM