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**FARMINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

October 17, 2017

Present at this meeting was Chairman Bombara, Commissioners Calciano, Alternate Commissioners Charette, O'Leary and Sanford and Town Planner and Clerk. Chairman Bombara called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Town Council Liaison Amy Suffredini was also present.

Secretary Calciano read the legal notice into the record.

Alternate Commissioner Charette was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Cox. Alternate Commissioner O'Leary was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Haviland. Alternate Commissioner Sanford was appointed to vote on behalf of Commissioner Holden.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Miss Porter's School – 54 Main Street

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to expand existing brownstone entrance step at 54 Main Street. Katie Bradley explained the existing entrance step needs to be expanded to provide safer access to the building. The existing step is small and with an outward swinging entry door creates a safety concern when someone is exiting the building at the same time someone is entering. There was a brief discussion and the Commissioner provided positive comments regarding the project. The Commission asked about the ramp at this entrance and Ms. Bradley responded the ramp is temporary to accommodate an employee recovering from an injury.

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

The public hearing closed at 4:07 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (O'Leary/Charette) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to expand existing brownstone entrance step at 54 Main Street as per plan submitted and on file in the Planning Office.

Michael Shea – 49 High Street

Commissioner Calciano recused himself from this matter.

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to install shed at 49 High Street. Mr. Shea stated he would like to install a 14' x 20' shed to the rear of his property. Building material proposed includes architectural asphalt shingles; single hung aluminum windows, LP Lap Siding and standard double doors for entry. The

Commission asked for clarification on the siding proposed. Mr. Shea explained it is a composite type material molded to look like wood. The material is not vinyl.

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

The public hearing closed at 4:10 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (O'Leary/Charette) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to install shed at 49 High Street as submitted and on file in the Planning Office.

Brian Hendrickson & Jessica Lyon – 165 Main Street

Application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace garage threshold, install retaining wall and rock wall at 165 Main Street. Mr. Hendrickson would like to repair the threshold to the garage by installing a granite threshold. This material will match existing granite on the walkways. He would like to also install a low stone wall approximately three feet tall along the side of the house between a driveway and the house. The stone will be the same material as existing stone walls on site. There was some clarifying discussion about the projects proposed.

Amanda Strauss, 16 Townsend Road, spoke in favor of the application.

The public hearing closed at 4:32 p.m.

Upon a motion made and seconded (O'Leary/Charette) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the application for Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness to replace garage threshold, install retaining wall and rock wall at 165 Main Street as per plan submitted and on file in the Planning Office.

**STAFF REPORT**

No Staff Report.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Temporary Certificate of Appropriateness

As requested at the last meeting this item was carried over. Briefly, creating an expiration date to approvals from this Commission would require the Town Council's approval of an amendment to the Farmington Code. There were comments not in favor of imposing an expiration date on approvals. Other comments included putting efforts into structures that are in disrepair within the District instead of setting an expiration date on approvals. Regarding discussion about occupied buildings in disrepair, Town Council Liaison Suffredini commented the Council has discussed altering the current Blighted Property Ordinance to include occupied buildings in the past and they have previously taken a strong position not to include occupied buildings in the Ordinance.

**MINUTES**

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

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

*SJM*

DRAFT