

Members: Thomas Yemm — Chairman, Paul Joy — Vice Chair, Ryan Erenhouse, Edward Goodrich, Lisa Donnelly — Clerk; Alternate members: Beth Daponte, Robert Caldwell, Michael Bingham

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION **MINUTES OF MEETING**

February 5, 2015

1) **Call to Order:** Chairman Yemm called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in Room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to notice duly posted.

Members in Attendance: Thomas Yemm, Paul Joy, Edward Goodrich, Ryan Erenhouse

Others in Attendance: Andrew Robinson, Sr. project Manager for Antinozzi Associates; George Perham, Principle for Antinozzi Associates; Sterling House Board member Raymond Meglio, Resident Gail Liscio

2) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of regularly scheduled meeting of Nov. 6, 2014. A motion was made by Mr. Joy to approve the foregoing minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Erenhouse and the motion carried unanimously.

3) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION

- 2283 Main Street/Sterling House (New construction, remodeling, demolition, Parking/Driveway/paving)

Mr. Perham presented the plan mentioning that a grant was received and the project will go to Planning and Zoning Office. The porch will be enclosed and will serve as the Director's office. The new porch roof will look the same as the others. Construction will begin at the end of summer.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. ERENHOUSE, SECONDED BY MR. GOODRICH TO APPROVE THE PROJECT. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 4) **Correspondence:** Mr. Yemm reported.
- Booklet "Walk through time" – a walking tour of Stratford. Produced for the 350 Anniversary celebration.
 - E-mail exchange re: street signs
 - E-mail exchange from realtor re: 58 White Street
 - E-mail exchange with Brian Bidoli, Greater Bridgeport Regional Council re: transit oriented development Plan.
 - News release from the Mayor re: Transit oriented development district.

5) **Old Business:**

a. **Inventory of Historic Buildings** not currently in Historic District — No new information.

b. **Historic district expansion discussion** — Mr. Yemm reported his walking tour. Discussion re: benefits and restrictions of inclusion in a historic district.

c. **Nicoll-Benjamin (a.k.a. “White” house) update** — As of 2012, the house was included in the Historic District. Question arose re: if the facility was available for meetings. The lease/license for the Mighty Quinn Foundation’s use of the “House” was mentioned.

d. **Civil War Monument discussion** — Monument has electrical problems.

e. **Historic District brochure discussion** — Mr. Yemm circulated a mock-up copy of an older brochure. No new or amended information was included. A plan for reintroducing the brochure will be worked up. Discussion re: simplifying the brochure, amending the verbiage, bullet point descriptions, and other improvements.

6) **New Business:**

a. **Shakespeare Theatre as Local Historic Property** — Mr. Yemm showed the commission a document describing the process for placing the structure in the Historic District.

b. **Historic District Street name signs** — Ms. Liscio was recognized to speak. She stated that all the Historic appearing signs have been replaced with new green signs. It was noted that street signs need to meet state mandated guidelines for size and safety. Discussion continued re: the town budget item for signs, location of the old signs should they still exist, aesthetic Historic District signs signify a source of pride and create a marketable district. The matter will be investigated further.

7) **Adjournment:** — Hearing no further business, Mr. Joy made a motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Erenhouse. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Cabral