

Members: Richard Fredette — Chairman, David Fuller — Vice Chair, Ryan Erenhouse — Clerk, Edward Goodrich, Penni Knablein; Alternate members: Casimir Mizera, Robert Caldwell, Michael Bingham

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION **MINUTES OF MEETING — May 7, 2015**

1) **CALL TO ORDER**: Secretary, Carol Cabral, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. She stated for the record that Alternate member Casimir Mizera was sitting as regular member this evening in place of Penni Knablein.

Members in Attendance: Richard Fredette, Edward Goodrich, Ryan Erenhouse, David Fuller, Casimir Mizera

Others in Attendance: Resident Rich Johnson, 49 Academy Hill Terrace; Resident and applicant Joe Saint of 2048 Elm Street

2) **ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON, CLERK – IN ACCORDANCE WITH 121-4E OF STRATFORD TOWN CODE**

Chairperson — The secretary called for nominations from the floor for Chairperson of the Historic District Commission.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FULLER, SECONDED BY MR. MIZERA TO NOMINATE RICHARD FREDETTE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION. HEARING NO OTHER NOMINATIONS, MR. MIZERA ASKED THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED AND THE SECRETARY CAST ONE BALLOT FOR MR. FREDETTE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. MR. FREDETTE ASSUMES THE CHAIR.

Vice Chairperson — Chairman Fredette called for nominations from the floor for Vice-Chairperson of the Historic District Commission.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MIZERA, SECONDED BY MR. ERENHOUSE TO NOMINATE DAVID FULLER AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION. HEARING NO OTHER NOMINATIONS, THE MOTION TO APPOINT DAVID FULLER AS VICE CHAIRMAN PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Clerk — Chairman Fredette called for nominations from the floor for Clerk of the Historic District Commission.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FULLER, SECONDED BY MR. MIZERA TO NOMINATE RYAN ERENHOUSE AS CLERK OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION. HEARING NO OTHER NOMINATIONS, THE MOTION TO APPOINT RYAN ERENHOUSE AS CLERK PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 3) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION — from: Joe Saint, 2048 Elm Street, request to add white picket fence around perimeter of property

Mr. Saint presented an application to install a picket fence around the perimeter of 2048 Elm Street. The property initially had a white picket fence as shown in a photo of approx. 100 year ago (age of photo uncertain). The proposed fence would be made of PVC, all white, 4' high, with 1" spindles and 4" posts to be installed by Discount Fence of Milford, CT over a 2-week period of time. There will be a double wide gate at the end of the existing front walk, as well as another gate off Elm Street leading to the side yard, a rolling gate across the driveway on the East side of the property, a single gate in the steel fence on the unseen side facing 2020 Elm Street in the backyard.

After discussion and questions were posed to Mr. Saint by commissioners, A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FULLER, SECONDED BY MR. MIZERA TO APPROVE THE PROJECT WITH A TIME EXTENSION IF NEEDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Erenhouse signed and dated the approved application. The application will be put on file with the completed originals.

- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of regularly scheduled meeting of March 5, 2015. Messrs. Fredette, Fuller and Mizera recused themselves from voting because they were not present for the March 5 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Erenhouse to approve the foregoing minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goodrich and carried 2 to 0.

- 5) CORRESPONDENCE: — Mr. Fredette received and reported on the following correspondence:

- Application of Mr. Canfield, 942 Broad Street, for a fence around the property. Mr. Fredette will contact Mr. Canfield re: the status of the fence.
- Cell tower request for 2399 Main street (Lovell building). Discussion ensued re: if the location is within the Historic District and the purview of this Commission.

- 6) Old Business:

- a. ~~Inventory of Historic Buildings~~ not currently in Historic District

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MIZERA, SECONDED BY MR. FULLER TO STRIKE THIS ITEM FROM THE AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. **Historic district expansion discussion** — No action taken.

- c. **Nicoll-Benjamin (a.k.a. "White" house) update** — 1850 Elm Street. Discussion re: if the location is Federal or local historic district.

- d. **Civil War Monument discussion** — It was pointed out that the monument is in disrepair. Discussion re: The WWII Monument Commission, the WWI monument.

e. **Historic District brochure discussion** — Mr. Erenhouse informed the commissioners that the original objective of updating the brochure is to familiarize new residents with the Commission, the district, and other helpful features of Stratford.

f. **~~Shakespeare Theatre as Local Historic Property~~**

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MIZERA, SECONDED BY MR. FULLER TO STRIKE THIS ITEM FROM THE AGENDA. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

g. **Historic District Street name signs** —Mr. Erenhouse reported they were told the Historical street signs no longer conformed to the state mandated regulations. However, after the signs were removed, it was noted that the Historic District was exempt from that regulation. The signs have long been lost or destroyed. Discussion went on re: making of new signs resembling the old and replacing the current signs, cost for new signs.

7) NEW BUSINESS: — None

8) ADJOURNMENT: — Hearing no further business, Mr. Fredette entertained a motion to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Mr. Erenhouse made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fuller and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Cabral, Secretary