

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 — November 5, 2015**

1) CALL TO ORDER: at 7: 01 p.m. in room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT

Presiding: Chairman Richard Fredette

Members in Attendance: Richard Fredette, Ryan Erenhouse, David Fuller, John Goodrich, Casimir Mizera, Michael Bingham

Others in Attendance: Applicant Ruth Munson; Representatives Dale Salsman, and Bill Nastri from Trinity Solar. Applicant Richard Johnson

2) CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION

718 Judson Place, Ruth Munson (solar roof mount) Mr. Salsman presented information and photos, focusing on the visual appearance of the apparatus that will be used for solar mounting on Ms. Munson's home. It will be placed in the back on the west side of the residence. The mounting area was approved by the state.

In question was the date of the photos submitted with the application, the photos at hand were dated from July of 2011. Mr. Fuller acted to postpone rendering any vote at this time and requested rescheduling this hearing when a full record is in place. Commissioners agreed to continue with the presentation and would then vote at the next hearing.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FULLER, SECONDED BY MR. BINGHAM TO CONTINUE THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS ON 718 JUDSON PLACE AT THE NEXT MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED 4 IN FAVOR WITH THE EXCLUSION OF MR. ERENHOUSE'S VOTE FOR THE REASON OF BEING RELATED TO THE APPLICANT.

Mr. Fredette asked Mr. Salsman to provide the town clerk with updated photos and addresses of homes that have similar solar gear that will be used on Ms. Munson's house before the next meeting.

Mr. Fuller suggested looking into updating the guideline book.

49 Academy Hill Terrace, Sandra and Richard Johnson (vinyl picket fence) Mr. Johnson provided data and photos of the area and the type of fencing that will be erected on his property. There would be approximately 216' of fencing, (26 sections each section is 8' long by 3' high.) He stated the fence would provide a safe environment for his dogs.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. ERENHOUSE, SECONDED BY MR. GOODRICH TO APPROVE MR. JOHNSON'S CoA FOR A FENCE. THE MOTION PASSED WITH 3 IN FAVOR AND 2, MR. FULLER, AND MR. BINGHAM, OPPOSING.

Commissioners discussed: Changing of technology (wood vs. vinyl), Maintaining the homes characteristics, and "What defines a historic home?"

Mr. Goodrich mentioned bringing to the table a recommendation of characterizing the area with plants, shrubs, etc., because of the onset of vinyl. Discussion continued.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Minutes of regularly scheduled meeting of Sept. 3, 2015

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FULLER, SECONDED BY MR. ERENHOUSE TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4) CORRESPONDENCE: — Mr. Fuller disclosed for the record Susan Birge asking for a tabling of the final fence Certification of Appropriateness.

5) OLD BUSINESS

a. Tabled Items — none

b. Historic district expansion discussion —Commissioners talked about exploring some homes to incorporate into the historic district (South Elm St. - to Birdseye, and possibly other areas) Need seventy-five percent owner approval. New boundaries of homes would have to be determined. Mr. Fredette suggested having the town attorney's office develop a letter to have at the next meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. FULLER, SECONDED BY MR. ERENHOUSE FOR THE HISTORIC COMMISSION TO ADVISE THE TOWN ATTORNEY TO DIVIZE A LETTER TO LOOK AT THE FIRST EXPLORITORY EXPANSION OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT ON BOTH SIDES OF ELM STREET TO THE CORNER OF BIRDSEYE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Nicoll-Benjamin (a.k.a. "White" house) update —none

d. Civil War Monument discussion — Mr. Fredette reported the whole monument base would be shipped out to be redone. It was approved 2 weeks ago. It should be dismantled before winter and expected to be done by Memorial Day.

- e. **Historic District brochure discussion** — a copy of the brochure has not been located. Mr. Fuller said that no department in town has a brochure, he still needs to check the Library. He said he has the software to lay it out and design it. Mr. Mizera and Mr. Bingham will check to see if they have a copy.
All agreed a brochure would be easier than a handbook.

6) NEW BUSINESS: — Mr. Fuller reported:

Christ Church graveyard tour – the tour was well attended. He would like to see the commission have events that promotes Stratford or Connecticut's history.
Christ Church cemetery: tree problem rectified.

7) ADJOURNMENT: — Hearing no further business, Mr. Fredette entertained a motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Fuller made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Erenhouse and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurell Barr