

Historic District Commission
Sherman, Connecticut



February 13, 2012

The **Historic District Commission Meeting** was called to order at 8:01 PM on February 13, 2012.

Present: Janet Hopkins, Chairman, James French, Robert Boone, Alice Schneckenburger,
Betsy Scholze, Robin Szendy, Helen Bray, Clerk

Guests: Clay Cope, Frank Spaziana

Janet opened the meeting wanting to add an item to the agenda – Authorize Payment for Architectural Plans for the Playhouse.

RAILING FOR OLD TOWN HALL

First the issue of the railing was discussed with Frank. Janet and Clay met with Suzette Berger at OTH. Janet had a plan that she was going to draw for this meeting. In the meantime Frank called Suzette and told her that it could not be done. Frank attended this meeting to explain the situation. First he had gone to Planning & Zoning and the Building Department. Clay interjected that the Certificate of Appropriateness should have been submitted by the previous selectman, but was not. A plan should have been provided and shown to the Building Inspector who has since ruled that building permit was not needed. Janet felt that this was new construction and required building permit. When Frank received a call to have the railing removed he spoke to Suzette and looked at the site. Clay told Frank they had a price for removing the railing, installing an electric door and to come up with a new railing plan that would go along the back wall.

Clay informed the HDC that he will apply for a C of A and he has call in to Bill Jenks to see whether or not this is considered old construction and if a permit is needed Clay will get one. Also he wants to see a plan drawn up and he will go through the proper channels and then bring this in to the next meeting.

Jim would like the plans to show elevations and a bird's eye view of the area.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR ARCHITECTURAL PLANS FOR PLYHOUSE BATHROOMS

Clay was at this meeting to present the architectural drawings for the Playhouse bathrooms and said that unfortunately the town did not get the STEAP grant for this project. Clay commented that the STEAP grant has gotten so popular there is much competition for these grants and said that they will write the most comprehensive application they can. Clay consulted with Senator Michael McLachlan and State Representative Richard Smith on STEAP grants.

Clay had Charlie Reppenhagen make architectural drawings for the proposed bathrooms and asked him to cap it at \$750. The bill was submitted to HDC. The HDC has no jurisdiction on the inside of the building but there are exterior doors that will require a C of A. The area will be handicap accessible, which it had not been. The septic system will also be updated. Already have a bid from Beatty Construction. Clay would like this to come before the Board of Selectmen on February 23, 2012.

Jim made a motion to authorize the expenditure of \$750 for the Playhouse bathroom plans. Seconded by Betsy and so moved.

The OTH came up again when Robin pointed out the steps at the entry with the railing are not up to building code and thought this should be looked at before starting reconstruction of the railing.

Clay pointed out the application for a grant should be applied for as soon as possible. Jim suggested a special meeting should be scheduled as soon as paperwork is ready for the HDC. Clay thought it might be possible to wait for the April 9th meeting.

Clay brought up the red brick on the library and pointed out that regardless of whether or not the library goes ahead with the expansion the red brick on the existing building needs work and the slate roof needs repair. A STEAP grant will be applied.

PLAYHOUSE WINDOWS

Janet wanted to update Clay on the windows before he left the meeting. Bob, Robin and Janet have been working on this for some time. The possible solution is specific windows from a specific company. Bob and Robin have seen examples of these windows. Janet will write a letter to Clay to deal with. The grant for these windows has not expired, but will again be checked out.

Janet wrote a letter to Office of Policy and Management supporting the STEAP grant for the playhouse bathrooms. The context of the letter was the history of this historical building and how much it means to the town. Janet read the letter into the record and it is on file in town hall.

Mason Lord had sample windows to show Janet, Bob and Robin. Janet thought it did everything they wanted it to do. These are storm windows, a covering that will protect the existing windows.

The windows will have to go out to bid. These windows must be measured precisely or they will not fit properly. Janet would like to know the cost of measuring. The most expensive part is building the windows. Janet, Bob and Robin should meet with Clay so he can write up the specs.

BUDGET 2012-2013

Janet presented the amount of the budget, the same as previous years, for \$4700.

Jim made motion to approve the budget for July 2012 to June 2013 in the amount of \$4700. Seconded by Betsy and so moved.

Janet will submit the budget to the Board of Selectmen.

CORRESPONDENCE

From the State of Connecticut – Records Retention and Disposition Policy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

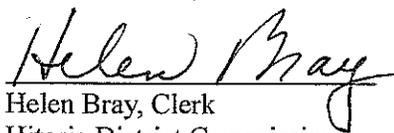
Betsy made a motion to approve the minutes dated December 12, 2011, seconded by Jim and so moved.

BENCH AND PARKING SPACE

Janet spoke to Clay about the bench at the firehouse and it will be left for now. The bench is attached to footings.

The parking space in front of the town hall may be returned to grass.

Respectfully submitted,


Helen Bray, Clerk
Historic District Commission