

Historic District Commission
Sherman, Connecticut



April 8, 2013

The Historic District Commission Meeting was called to order at 8:02 PM on April 8, 2013.

Present: Janet Hopkins, Chairman, James French, Robert Boone, Betsy Scholze,
Helen Bray, Clerk

Guests: Mason Lord, Gloria Thorne

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes dated February 18, 2013 seconded by Betsy and so moved.

DISCUSSION OF LIBRARY PROJECT PROGRESS

The one item on the agenda was an update on the library. Mason was present to talk about the library and there had been a meeting for historic district commissioners about preservation and thinking about substitute materials being used in renovations and applying this to historic district regulations.

Mason presented videos of the barn, interior and exterior. Janet and Mason had walked around the building and came up with some suggestions. Mason started with the interior of the barn showing pictures of the beams and how they will be placed. One beam in the center should be removed as it will be in the way especially if the room is used for a meeting room. The beams must be placed where they will give support and maintain the beauty of the beams. The cupola will be supported by the roof structure.

The question of use came up and no one is sure exactly how the barn will be used. Janet suggested using some space for storage. Millie Loeb had mentioned to Janet that storage space was sacrificed. Jim pointed out that a high storage enclosure would block the views of the barn walls and the upper area. Since this is a barn box stalls were suggested with decorative wrought iron.

The stonework has been completed and the picture showed the height and this is as far as it will go, about 5 feet. The original barn doors will be put back and they will not go all the way down, stopping at the stones. Dropping it down further was discussed. The commissioners were unsure about how this would look raised up but Mason pointed out that some barns have raised doors for lofts. Jim would like to see an extra foot at the bottom of the doors. Bob suggested new doors using weathered wood. Mason disagreed because it is impossible to match the new wood to the old siding.

Jim suggested dropping the doors down. Combining dropping and adding a foot to the doors they will not be suspended. Bob agreed to adding the board saying the board will weather to blend with the old door. Mason will look into this.

The question of the slate roof came up – what if it is not affordable? Mason commented the problem with shingles is they do not last whereas slate lasts. Mason read that black asphalt shingles are about the best.

All kinds of roofing materials were discussed with different opinions. Jim did mention the copper flashing that is installed across the top of cedar shingle roofing, explaining that as copper oxidizes the water runs down and will actually protect the shingles.

There being no further business Betsy made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Jim and so moved. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS ON JUNE 10, 2013

Respectfully submitted,


Helen Bray, Clerk
Historic District Commission