

Historic District Commission
Sherman, Connecticut

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes October 20, 2014

The **Historic District Commission Meeting** was called to order at 8 PM on October 20, 2014.

Present: Janet Hopkins, Chairman, James French, Robert Boone, Marilyn Dwyer, Cynthia Osborne, Alice Schneckenburger, Betsy Scholze, Helen Bray, Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes dated August 11, 2014, seconded by Betsy and so moved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Janet sent a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting they hold a workshop prior to the budget processing, November/early December, in order to know where the commission stands before getting into the budget preparation process.

MAINTENANCE

Janet spoke to Frank Spaziani about his order of needs that should be addressed. They are:

Cupola on Playhouse – There is significant rot on the cupola and Frank believes it will be taken care of this year so it will probably not go on the budget. Frank is having Addy Havens look at it and come in with a price, and hopefully it will be done this year.

Town Hall exterior – Janet walked around the building and could see that it was peeling around the vault, and asked Frank to take a look at it and also told the selectman. It was looked at and Janet was told that there was no moisture problem, which she disagrees with. Frank came in with an estimate of \$700. Clay took a look and thought it was something worse happening and the whole building should be repainted. The commission did not agree with this and would like to have a painter look at this.

Scout House – The gutters will cost \$7800 but it will wait until there is an assessment on the roof. The gutters should match the playhouse gutters.

Janet is going to the B of S meeting on October 23rd to request having a budget workshop prior to actual budget time. She would also like to discuss the chain of command on town issues such as who is responsible for each town owned building, for example the scout house, and is it necessary to install gutters.

Windows – There is a window on the playhouse that should be protected and the prairie window on the Old Town Hall. This would be paid for with the grant money and any extra money may be used for the playhouse bathrooms.

Mallory Town Hall Cupola – Janet thought the cupola on the town hall needed major repair. Jim did not think it was major. Also, screening of air conditioning units and electric box could use some gravel.

Playhouse update – No one seems to know the starting date or any other information on the status of the bathrooms.

ROOFING MATERIALS

Jim wrote a memo to the building and zoning officials informing them that a C of A will not be required for asphalt and wood shingles for roofing in the Historic District. Any other materials require a C of A.

Janet would like to require the applicant for a new roof fill out a C of A for the record but it will not be necessary to come before the HDC for approval.

REGULATIONS

Jim would like to bring the HDC regulations up to date. Janet feels the problem with bringing the regulations up to meeting the enabling statute absolutely emasculates the HDC regulations, it takes everything away. Janet's attitude is to leave well enough alone.

One of the things that would happen bringing the regulations up to date would be charging fees. This could be destructive since people are now willing to do the right thing. Jim brought up the required public hearing for every application which is time consuming and expensive. Just putting a notice in the paper for a hearing is expensive. Jim will continue to pursue this issue.

There being no further business Jim made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Betsy and so moved. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING IS ON DECEMBER 8, 2014

Respectfully submitted,


Helen Bray, Clerk
Historic District Commission