Woodstock Historic District Commission Regular Meeting via Zoom Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 6:30 p.m. Minutes

1. Call to Order: 6:45 p.m. by Chairperson Gail Usher. Present: Commission Members Gail Usher, Earl Manz, Harold Bishop, Stan Swanson, Patrick Mule and Tim Monahan; Town Technology Anthony Pezzetti.

2. Appointment of alternates: Patrick Mule

3. Public Hearing: Tremblay, 524 Route 169, for driveway. Legal Notice read by Earl Manz, Acting Clerk. Gail Usher explained the process. Bob Tremblay described the proposal. The Tremblay's have a copper beach tree to the left of the driveway with a 21 1/2 inch circumference, and its roots are right on the surface of the driveway. The proposal is to make a turnaround bordering the present stone wall around the tree, using millings of 3/4 inch or smaller, right up to the tree. Driving over the millings will harden them and serve as a driveway. The current driveway is paved and that will remain. The primary purposes of the proposal are to protect the root system of the copper beach tree and to make the driveway safer so that no one will have to back out onto Route 169. The Commission discussed the proposed driveway. Stan Swanson moved to close the public hearing; Earl Manz seconded; unanimously approved. Earl Manz moved to approve the proposal as presented; Stan Swanson seconded; unanimously approved.

4. Review of Minutes: April 28, 2021. Motion to approve the minutes by Stan Swanson; seconded by Harold Bishop. Unanimous approval.

5. Correspondence: Correspondence was received as follows: Connecticut Circuit Rider on proposed demolition; phone call from Jamie Harrison concerning historical marker.

6. Public Comment: None.

7. Project Consultations: None.

8. Old Business:

Reaching out to residents. The Commission needs to give thought to how to reach out to residents of the Historic District, whether by door to door visits, public meetings, letter, or otherwise. Time schedule should be either this fall or next spring at the latest.

Other: The issue of the trailer site on a historic district property is in the hands of the zoning commission.

Lighting at the church near the Woodstock Academy: No submission was made concerning the lighting. Lighting is supposed to be approved by the Town as well as the Woodstock Historic District Commission. The lighting is on all night, and is a strong spot light. It affects the new owners of the old headmaster's house. An application should be submitted for the lighting.

9. New Business:

Historical Marker: Jamie Harrison called Gail Usher and advised her that the historical marker placed by the Tercentenary Committee in 1986 in the grass triangle near Old Hall Road has disappeared.

In person meetings: As of June 30, 2021, the Town will allow the option of in person meetings. Zoom meetings will also still be allowed. The Woodstock Historic District Commission will continue to have zoom meetings for now.

9. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Harold Bishop; seconded by Tim Monahan. Unanimous approval at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted by Earl Manz, Acting Clerk.

These minutes may be published but the Commission does not approve them until the next regular meeting. The link to the Zoom meeting is at