

Woodstock Historic District Commission
Regular Meeting via Zoom
September 27, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

1. Call to Order at 6:38 PM by Gail Usher. Present at the meeting were Commission members Gail Usher , Stan Swanson, Toby Bishop, Jeremy Hughes, and Earl Manz, and from the public Petrina Dawson.
2. Appointment of alternates: None
3. Public Hearing for Dawson, for 582 Route 169 for fencing, grading, tree work, and sheds. After Earl Manz read the Notice of Public Hearing, Gail Usher briefly explained the hearing process. Petrina Dawson presented her plan and request for Certificate of Appropriateness and presented numerous slides showing the proposal. Pastures fencing: Each of the two pastures, which currently have stone walls around them, will be divided into two sub-pastures with horse fencing. The fencing will be round poles and slats, in black, and will be placed within 16 feet of the stonewalls, creating a bridle path around the pastures. At the top of the fencing there will be an electric wire to keep the horses from trying to eat the grass on the other side. The pastures are being split in two because there will be four horses in total, but two are draft horses and need to be kept separate. Each sub-pasture will have a running shed which will be either 16 feet by 10 feet or 16 feet by 12 feet, or if the two sheds that the property owners have in Virginia can be moved, then two of the sheds will be 12 feet by 12 feet. All will be painted the same color in the spring of 2024. The sheds will all be wooden board and batten with an arched opening on one side. All sheds will have asphalt shingle roofs. In addition to the fencing, there will be a total of seven 16 foot heavy duty metal gates that will be used to manage the horses locations. Dog fence: It is proposed to have a dog enclosure at the front lot which will run from the house towards Old Hall Road, then back to the house. Grading will need to be done in the area of the dog run, along with a French drain, because water has been going into the foundation of the house. A tree needs to be removed from a corner of the house along with some overgrown bushes. Then the dog fence will be built, the same as the other fencing, except that there will be a no climb fence on the interior of the other fencing made of galvanized metal. The fence will be 4 feet six inches in height. Greenery will be planted along the exterior of the dog fencing. There may be a gate from the dog run on the Old Hall Road side of the driveway, but it will only be 5 or 6 feet wide. Motion to close the hearing was made by Toby Bishop and seconded by Stan Swanson. Unanimous approval. The Commission reviewed the proposal and discussed how the changes are consistent with the historical use of the property. Motion to approve as presented was made by Toby Bishop, and seconded by Jeremy Hughes. Unanimous approval. Gail Usher reiterated that our decisions do not set a precedent for any other applicant.
4. Review of Minutes : Stan Swanson moved to approve the July meeting minutes, Jeremy Hughes seconded, unanimous approval.

5. Correspondence: Gail Usher received correspondence from Mary Donne about the informational kiosk and possible funding sources. She will try to get the interested parties together to pursue the project.
6. Public Comment: None
7. Project consultations: None
8. Old Business: There was a brief update on current projects. Concerning the John Eliot marker, it has been determined that the actual location of John Eliot preaching was in the village of South Woodstock. For member recruitment, the Commission still needs one full member and one alternate member.
9. New Business: None
10. Adjournment: Stan Swanson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Earl Manz. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Earl Manz, 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 .