

TOWN OF HINGHAM

Historic Districts Commission



MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 3/18/2021

PLACE: Remote meeting via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Collard, von der Luft, Pyles, Daley, Aborn, Burnham, Edson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Donaldson, Shriver

The Chair called the duly noticed meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Regular Members Michael Collard, Chairman, Carol Pyles, Catherine Daley, Hans von der Luft, and Justin Aborn were in attendance. Alternate Members Ben Burnham and Robert Edson were in attendance and Commission Administrator Andrea Young was also present. The Chair noted for the record that the proceedings were being recorded by the Commission and asked that others who may wish to record the meeting announce this in order to inform others attending the meeting.

The Chair stated that the Voting Members for this meeting include The Chair, Michael Collard, Carol Pyles, Catherine Daley, Justin Aborn, and Hans von der Luft. He noted that Alternate Member Ben Burnham will replace Member Hans von der Luft as the 5th voting member for the hearing on 44 Middle Street.

6:32 pm Hearing: 681 Main Street, Continued from 2/11/21

For the applicant: Heidi Condon

The Chair re-opened a hearing on a continued application from William and Allison Skidmore, 681 Main Street, located in the Tower-Wilder Extension Local Historic District, for the renovations including an addition in the rear, and new stone terrace off the addition.

Heidi Condon of HC design presented the updated plans to the Commission. She walked through the changes that have been made to the plans at the request of the Commission, including replacing the wooden fence in front of the home, recessing the addition 18", minimizing the appearance of the new side entry, reducing the number of new windows, recessing the gas firebox, and using wood for the basement railing instead of metal.

After additional comments from Commission members about simplifying the roofline and the side entry to the home, reducing the size of one of the windows, and future hardscaping plans, the Chair suggested that the project be approved pending the submission of new side elevation plans.

The Chair invited a motion.

MOTION: Michael Collard, seconded by Carol Pyles moved to issue a certificate of appropriateness for 681 Main Street for renovations and additions to the rear of the house based on drawings submitted and revised March 6, 2021. The Applicant is to make revisions to the side entrance as discussed, to simplify, by exposing or recreating the existing rake board and removing the pilaster, simplifying where the rake board meets the shed roof. All new materials to be wood. All windows on the new addition to be wood, simulated divided light, either Marvin or Colby. Shallow pitch roof to be flat lock seam metal roof based on drawing notes. New white picket fence based on drawings submitted to match what was previously on site. Perimeter of the fence to match left and right side, based on drawings and an additional fence to run from the corner of the house to the property line. Hardscape revisions may include revising the stone wall to a half round, reusing existing materials. The small window to the right of the new entry way is to be revised to be made smaller. Applicant to submit revised drawing of the side elevation.

IN FAVOR: Hans von der Luft, Catherine Daley, Justin Aborn, Carol Pyles, Michael Collard

OPPOSED: None

The motion passed unanimously.

7:15 pm Hearing: 44 Middle Street, Continued from 2/11/21

For the applicant: John and Aimee Glynn

The Chair noted that the voting members on this hearing include The Chair, Michael Collard, Carol Pyles, Catherine Daley, Justin Aborn, and Alternate Member Ben Burnham. The Chair re-opened a hearing on a continued application from John and Aimee Glynn for replacement of windows at 44 Middle Street, located in the Hingham Centre Local Historic District.

The Applicant, John Glynn, presented the application for replacement windows to the Commission, explaining that since the last hearing, Alternate Member Ben Burnham visited the site to assess the condition of the windows, confirming that the windows appear to be original to the house. Alternate Member Ben Burnham noted that the windows do not meet the minimum standards for egress. Peter Bickford also confirmed that the replacement of these windows is a matter of safety.

Members of the Commission discussed options for the replacement windows that would meet the minimum requirements for egress. It was noted that the Commission would like to see the original windows saved. In order to give the Applicant a chance to decide on replacement windows to propose, the hearing was continued to a future meeting.

7:38 pm Hearing: 37 Fearing Road, Continued from 2/11/21

For the applicant: Brad Pierce

The Chair re-opened a hearing on a continued application from Daniel Clark for modifications to a previously approved project at 37 Fearing Road, located in the Lincoln Local Historic District.

Brad Pierce, of Pierce Home Design, presented the updated proposed plans to the Commission. He explained that, as requested by the Commission during the last hearing, he edited the design to reduce the appearance of the side entry by using Italianate brackets, removing the sidelights, and including only one door with an awning window next to it. He added that the proposed corbel design matches the existing corbels on the home and will be solid wood.

Members of the Commission and the Applicant discussed replacing the siding on the home with new clapboard. The Applicant explained that much of the current siding on the original home is cracked and warped and replacing it with new clapboard now would allow the siding of the whole home to be cohesive.

The Chair invited a motion.

MOTION: Justin Aborn, seconded by Carol Pyles made a motion for a Certificate of Appropriateness for 37 Fearing Road, to construct a two-story addition to the right rear side of the house adjacent to the existing driveway. The addition will include an enlarged kitchen with a mudroom side entry off the existing driveway and a second-floor master bedroom directly above the kitchen. The modifications will be according to drawings dated March 3, 2021.

IN FAVOR: Hans von der Luft, Catherine Daley, Justin Aborn, Carol Pyles, Michael Collard

OPPOSED: None

The motion passed unanimously.

7:56 pm Hearing: 357 Main Street

For the applicant: Tricia Van Buskirk

The Chair opened a hearing on an application from Kelsey Skomorowski to add an 11 ft. x 18 ft. turnaround in the front yard at 357 Main Street, located in the Hingham Centre Local Historic District.

Tricia Van Buskirk, the landscape architect for the project, presented the proposed plans on behalf of the Applicants. She explained that the Applicants want to add this turnaround to the front of their home for safety reasons, so the homeowners do not have to back out onto the busy street. She added that the turnaround will be 11'x18', and gravel with a cobblestone border.

The Chair invited a motion.

MOTION: Catherine Daley, seconded by Carol Pyles made a motion for a Certificate of Appropriateness for 337 Main Street to add an 11 ft. x 18 ft. turnaround in the front yard. The turnaround material will be gravel with a cobblestone border as per the site plan submitted on February 15, 2021.

IN FAVOR: Hans von der Luft, Catherine Daley, Justin Aborn, Carol Pyles, Michael Collard

OPPOSED: None

The motion passed unanimously.

8:04 pm Hearing: 389 Main Street

For the applicant: Tim Wagner

The Chair opened a hearing on an application from Tim and Michelle Wagner to add ½ story to the garage, expand existing office space and add 3rd floor dormer, extend the covered porch, and install pool fence.

Tim Wagner presented the proposed plans to the Commission. He noted that they previously received a Certificate of Appropriateness for the construction of a two-story pool house/garage that they have since decided not to go forward with, and instead are proposing this revised project. He explained that they want to add a second-floor addition to an existing part of the home, a second floor to the existing single-story garage, and to relocate their bulkhead in order to make some interior renovations to the layout of the home.

He added that they are also looking to add hardscaping around the home and the landscape architect for the project, Sean Papich, presented the plan to the Commission. He explained that the proposed plans include a swimming pool with a stone surround, a stone grill/kitchen area located next to the existing garage, and a required 6 ft. wood fence pool enclosure to meet the Town's code.

Members of the Commission and the Applicant discussed aspects of the application including simplifying the roofline, reducing the appearance of the proposed additions to the home, and the color and material of the proposed pool enclosure fence.

The Chair noted that the Applicant should provide the existing and proposed elevations for each side of the home for the Commission and that a site visit would be very beneficial for this project. The hearing was continued to future meeting date after a site visit is conducted.

Chairman Collard adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Murphy