

Town of Hingham
Historic Districts Commission
210 Central Street ~ Hingham, Massachusetts

Historic Districts Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday April 23, 2020
6:30 PM

Remote meeting via Zoom:

Topic: Historic Districts Commission Meeting

Time: Apr 23, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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Present: Commissioners **Michael Collard, Hans von der Luft, Carol Pyles, and Catherine Daley**, Alternate Members Ben Burnham, Tomas Kindler, Justin Aborn, Tracy Shriver, and Robert Edson

Also present: Historical Administrator Andrea Young and Administrative Assistant Sherry Robertson.

Commissioner Collard called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM, and read aloud the statement regarding the Open Meeting Law during the current State of Emergency due to COVID-19:

This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to an Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.

Agenda : 8 Pond Street, continued from 4/16/20

Review of Best Practices

Commissioner Daley recused herself from the discussion of 8 Pond Street.

Continued from 4/16/20: **Robert and Dorothy Stuart, 8 Pond Street, located in the Hingham Centre Local Historic District**, to demolish two existing additions and a sunroom all located to the rear of the house and to construct a new addition.

Bridgette Minicus, the prospective buyer of the property, was present remotely. She thanked the Commission for their patience and discussed some of the changes to the plans. Mr. and Mrs. Stuart, the current homeowners, were also present remotely. Mr. Stuart stated that they were happy that Ms. Minicus wants to preserve the main house and since the plans have minimized the side entrance, they feel it is appropriate. Architect Christopher DeOrsay was present remotely. He shared the plans, discussing changes to the side entry, and presented several options of the proposed styles of dormers. The Commission discussed the dormers, and noted their efforts are to make sure new construction is compatible and does not overwhelm the original structure. Commissioner von der Luft discussed trying to minimize the massing and Commissioner Shriver noted that the guidelines are to make additions that are subservient to original house, and discussed what may be visible from Main Street. Commissioner Collard noted that members of the Commission have differing opinions and consensus may be a challenge, but some members do feel that the changes to the dormers are appropriate. Commissioner Burnham agreed with Commissioner Pyles that the views from the public way are important, and that the views on the drawings do not necessarily show it from that angle. He stated that the most important issue is that the original volume remains intact and prominent. The Commission continued to discuss the appropriateness of the proposed dormers. Commissioner Collard suggested there may be sufficient consensus to make a motion.

Motion: Commissioner Burnham made a motion to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for 8 Pond Street for the addition as illustrated on drawings HDC R 2.3A dated April 23, 2020 prepared by Christopher DeOrsay of Campbell Smith Architects; three dormers A version; additional cut of entryway HDC R 2.5 dated April 21, 2020 showing recessed entryway and continuous cornice; all wood windows of simulated divided light or true divided light; trim to match the original volume in material; cedar roof; paint colors to be chosen later and submitted to Administrator Andrea Young; lighting plan also to be submitted later; includes demolition of chimney on gable end and first floor kitchen ell and sunroom, packet HDC 2, 4-8; included in demolition is second floor dormer on original volume in rear.

Second: Commissioner Pyles

In Favor: Commissioners Collard, von der Luft, Pyles, and Burnham

Opposed: Commissioner Kindler

The Commission reviewed procedures and guidelines for hearings.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Robertson

Administrative Assistant