

Town of Edgartown
~Historic District Commission~
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Historic District Commission

Zoom Meeting MINUTES

Thursday, August 20, 2020



In accordance with Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, this meeting was held through remote conference technology only.

Chairman Scott called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Members in attendance: Christopher Scott, Susan Catling, Cari Williamson, Molly Costello, Ken Magnuson, Peter Rosbeck and Carole Berger (A). Absent: Julia Tarka. Staff: Douglas Finn–Host & Bricque Garber.

Mr. Scott explained the procedure for the Public Hearings.

Public Hearing: 40 Fuller (20B-47) Ned & Louise Brooks. Applicant proposes demolition of deck; basement addition, covered porch with fireplace; replace garage door and new brick driveway. Ken Magnuson was recused from hearing this application.

Ned and Louise Brooks presented the application for the changes to their Fuller St. house. The application and plans were displayed on the screen. There was a discussion about the age of the original house and the additions over time, the Brooks' noting that the original front hall may have been a shepherd's shack. It was noted that existing vinyl siding will be removed and replaced with wood, the gravel drive will be replaced with brick and the vinyl garage door will, likewise be replaced. The Public Hearing was opened and as there was public comment, the Public Hearing was closed. The comments from the members were positive, including the plan's sensitivity to the historic architecture and better balance to the house. The removal of the tree, in front, was discussed and it was noted that they will require permission from the Board of Selectmen to remove and replace the tree. Motion to approve as submitted, Peter Rosbeck. 2nd, Susan Catling. Unanimously approved.

Public Hearing: 69 S. Water (20D-333) Harbor View Realty Trust. James Shane/agent. Applicant proposes a 15x36 retractable canvas porch roof covering with columns to match front porch. Jim Shane made the presentation for the change to the rear porch. He provided a history of the property and the renovations over time. Mr. Shane noted that the new columns will match the front of the house and will be set behind the current railing. The retractable roof is 4 sections and made of Sunbrella fabric. Mr. Shane described the heat at the rear of the house and the need for shade, currently provided by free standing umbrellas. There were no public comments when the Public Hearing was opened so this part of the hearing was closed. The member's comments were positive noting this will look like a pergola when the shades are retracted and presents a tasteful solution. Motion to approve, Cari Williamson. 2nd, Ken Magnuson. Unanimously approved.

Public Hearing: 56 N. Water St. (20D-222) *Change to an approved plan.* RJH Realty Trust. Chuck Sullivan/agent. Applicant proposes to lower the height of AC Condensers to align with the top of the existing fence. Chuck Sullivan presented the plan to lower the installed condensers to at or below the top of the existing fence. He noted that the installation was done without the knowledge of the Owner or the Architect. Mr. Sullivan was in agreement that the current situation creates an eye-sore and she is concerned that this is not in line with HDC practices. The member reviewed the photo of the existing configuration. Mr. Sullivan said that the HVAC contractor can dig a trench for the condensers to move them down. The hearing was opened to the public and Mary Stewart Hammond, abutter, described the very objectionable view from her home. There were no other public comments. Board members expressed that they would like to have seen a different approach to the installation but below the fence line will suffice in removing the view from the public way. Mrs. Hammond said that from her bedroom window she will still see down into the spinning top part of the compressor. Mr. Sullivan said he will discuss with the HVAC contractor and see if there is anything that can be done to further mitigate the view of the spinning part of the condenser. Mrs. Hammond said she is satisfied. Motion to approve Christopher Scott. 2nd, Peter Rosbeck. Unanimously Approved

Public Hearing: 83 Peases Pt. Way S. (29A-9.12) Thomas Fisher. Hilary Grannis/agent. Applicant proposes additions to the front, side and rear of the house. Hilary Grannis presented the application for the renovations to the home. The house was built in 1981 and was relocated back on the lot in 2001. She noted 3 additions to the house. Each elevation was shown and discussed. All materials will match existing with the exception of the roof which will be replaced with asphalt. The public hearing was opened. Mike Weinblat (77 Peases) Q: Will the shed stay? A: Yes. Being no further public comment the Public Hearing was closed. Member remarks were positive. Carole Berger noted that the change creates a better balance to the front of the house. Cari Williamson sees the plan as very well thought out. Molly Costello noted a better balance to the front façade. Motion to approve. Cari Williamson. 2nd, Molly Costello. Unanimously approved.

59 School St. (20D-146) Change to approved plan. Polley. Lil Province/agent. Applicant proposes landscape lighting. The application and lighting plan were shown on the screen. Lil Province, Alex Morrison & Tim Bettencourt appeared for the applicant. Alex noted that the current lighting plan details lights that have been substantially reduced in number. Christopher Scott explained that the HDC has pervue over the installation of lighting but that we have not received concerns from neighbors and abutters in the past. This application brings, to the commission, a new attention to landscape lighting. The presenters discussed low voltage lighting and compared noted that this up-lighting did not compare with window and string lighting in rear yards and patios. Bricque noted she has done a bit of research about up-lighting and would be happy to do more. She noted that the Edgartown Conservation Commission does not allow any up-lighting and that is a condition of every Con-Com approval. On Nantucket no up-lighting is allowed, to address light pollution. The MA Legislature will consider changes to state law that will address lighting and light pollution.

Alex Morrison requested a continuation of this hearing until later in the year when it is darker earlier and will be a better opportunity for the Commission to set site visits. The members agreed and there was a motion made by Susan Catling to continue until on or before 12.31.2020. 2nd, Christopher Scott. Unanimously approved to continue. In the meantime Bricque will do further research into the other Massachusetts HDC's lighting policies. The HDC may elect to hold a public hearing to gauge public opinion regarding downtown residential lighting

12 Mill St. (20D-344.17) Thayer. Jordan Landers/agent. Applicant proposes to replace windows with Anderson 400 Woodright & add Dutch Door. Members reviewed the photos, drawings, tear sheets and application. There were no member concerns. Motion to approve, Susan Catling. 2nd, Chris Scott. Unanimously Approved.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of 7.16.2020 Cari Williamson, 2nd, Peter Rosbeck. Approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Bricque Garber
Administrator

Approved: _____ 9.3.2020