

**CHESHIRE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019 AT 7:30 P.M.
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL - 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET
ROOM 210**

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Joseph Dattilo, James Vibert, Sr., Gayle Nidoh and John Torello

Commissioners Absent:

Lisa Franco, George Pawlush and Helen Wilson

Staff Present:

Jerry Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

Others Present:

Carisa Lockery, Pink Olive Events

Brian Rogers, SIG Insurance

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dattilo called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was taken.

III. SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Chairman Dattilo seated all alternate commissioners.

IV. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

It was determined that a quorum was present.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Certificate of Appropriateness #2019-007
Carisa Lockery, Pink Olive Events
15 South Main Street
Window Sign Lighting

Ms. Lockery stated she would like to maintain the existing window sign lighting in a non-flashing mode. Mr. Sitko stated the planning and zoning regulations prohibit flashing lights and the Historic District Commission regulates signage and exterior lighting in the historic district. Chairman Dattilo stated he spoke with John Weinstein, the property owner at 15 South Main Street, and he is willing to replicate the exterior lighting on the first floor to illuminate Ms. Lockery's window lettering. As to lighting, Mr. Sitko cited Section 1.20 of the Historic District Commission Regulations that lighting is "Any lighting device located exterior to a building or structure, or intended to illuminate areas exterior to a building or structure..." As to signage, Mr. Sitko cited Section 1.32 of the Historic District Commission Regulations, that any signage is "Any device however made, displayed, painted, supported, or attached, intended for the purpose of advertisement, attraction of attention, identification, publicity for or notice." Mr. Torello stated the current sign/lighting is complex. In his opinion, the current lighting detracts from the sign. Mr. Vibert stated according to the Design Guidelines window signs that are hand painted are to be illuminated by interior lighting only. There was a lengthy discussion.

MOTION by Mr. Vibert to close the Public Hearing at 8:07 p.m.

SECONDED by Mrs. Nidoh and passed unanimously.

VII. Regular Meeting

1. Approval of Minutes - November 4, 2019

MOTION by Mr. Vibert to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 4, 2019 as submitted.

SECONDED by Mrs. Nidoh and passed unanimously.

2. Election of Officers

MOTION by Mr. Vibert to keep the same Officers for 2020, that is Joseph Dattilo as Chairman, James Vibert as Vice Chairman and Lisa Franco as Secretary.

SECONDED by Mrs. Nidoh and passed unanimously.

3. Communications

There were no communications.

4. Business

- A. Certificate of Appropriateness #2019-007
Carisa Lockery, Pink Olive Events
15 South Main Street
Window Sign Lighting

There was a brief discussion.

MOTION by Mr. Vibert to approve Certificate of Appropriateness #2019-007 as presented with the following stipulations: 1) the sign will only be lit from the inside; 2) the lighting will not be sign specific; 3) the lights will be non-flashing; and 4) the lights will be on a timer to turn off no later than midnight.

SECONDED by Mr. Torello and passed unanimously.

- B. Certificate of Appropriateness #2019-008
219 Realty, LLC c/o Brian E. Rogers, member
219 South Main Street
Replace Existing Free-standing Sign - The SIG Insurance Agencies

Mr. Rogers stated his company recently purchased the property at 219 South Main Street and would like to install a sign in front of the building consistent with the existing sign. There was a brief discussion.

MOTION by Mr. Vibert to send Certificate of Appropriateness #2019-008 to public hearing on January 6, 2020.

SECONDED by Mrs. Nidoh and passed unanimously.

C. Committees

1. Education/Community Outreach

There was no discussion.

2. Regulations/Rules

- a. Design Guidelines

There was no discussion.

b. Handbook

There was no discussion.

3. Chairman's Report

There was no Chairman's report.

4. Other

a. Mr. Sitko stated the town council will host a holiday reception for board and commission members on December 19th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in council chambers.

b. Mr. Sitko stated he checked on 479 Mt. Sanford Road and the COA was approved in May, so there is time left to complete the work.

c. Mr. Sitko stated he spoke with Mary Dunn from the State Historic Preservation Offices and since Cheshire is a Certified Local Government, the town is eligible for state and federal grants. Mr. Sitko asked the commissioners to start thinking about a project that might be funded by a grant.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Vibert at 8:29 p.m.

SECONDED by Mr. Torello and passed unanimously.

Attest:

Karen M. Gill
Recording Secretary