

**CHESHIRE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M.
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL – 84 SOUTH MAIN ST.
ROOM 210**

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Elizabeth Pratt Fox, Joseph Dattilo, and James Vibert, Sr., Alternate

Commissioners Absent:

Jeanne Chesanow, Christine Pittsley, John Torello, Elizabeth Ryducha, Alternate and Breina Schain, Alternate

Staff Present:

None

Others Present:

Jim Sima, Town Council Liaison; Diane Calabro of the Cheshire Historical Society (departed at 7:50 p.m.)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pratt Fox called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

The roll was taken for the meeting.

III. SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Chairman Pratt Fox seated Alternate Commissioner James Vibert, Sr. at this meeting of the Historic District Commission for voting.

IV. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

It was determined that a quorum was present.

V. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Application for Certificate of Appropriateness - # 2014 – 013C
Town of Cheshire, The Cheshire Historical Society
43 Church Drive
Replace Lucille Williams Garden Sign

Mr. Dattilo read the change of materials public notice of this Public Hearing as it appeared in the August 21, 2014 Cheshire Herald. Chairman Pratt Fox stated that written proof that abutting property owners were notified has been submitted. Ms. Calabro provided a copy of an email she received from Venus Ingeborg on August 20th as written comment regarding this Certificate of Appropriateness Application, which Commissioners reviewed.

Chairman Pratt Fox reviewed Public Hearing rules and procedures and then opened the Public Hearing of Town of Cheshire, The Cheshire Historical Society for the replacement of the Lucille Williams Garden Sign at 34 Church Drive.

Diane Calabro was present to address the Commission regarding this application. She presented the original Lucille Williams Garden Sign to the Commission. Ms. Calabro stated that she originally thought about touching up the sign herself but after a better look she realized there was too much wear and tear. As a result, she was put into contact with a local sign maker and Ms. Calabro presented the proposed replacement sign to the Commission. She stated that the new sign is made out of a composite material and is an almost identical font and design as the original sign. The lettering is made out of vinyl.

With regards to mounting of the new proposed sign, Ms. Calabro stated that it would be hung using the original sign holes to be affixed to the building, in the exact same location as the original sign. She noted that the original sign is at least 20 years old and if the new sign is approved, the original sign will likely be kept inside the shed or inside the main building by the exit to the garden.

Mr. Dattilo commented that the sign maker did a beautiful job, noting that it is almost a carbon copy of the original sign.

Public Comment:

Jim Sima, Town Council Liaison commented that the new sign looks great and suggested using a clear coat over the original sign.

Ms. Calabro stated that she appreciated Mr. Sitko's help and referral to the sign company. She also noted that she had received some real good suggestions from the Commission.

Chairman Pratt Fox closed this Public Hearing at 7:43 p.m.

VIII. REGULAR MEETING

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting – August 5, 2014

MOTION by James Vibert, Sr. to accept the August 5, 2014 Historic District Commission Regular Meeting minutes as submitted. **SECONDED** by Joseph Dattilo.

VOTE: In Favor – Dattilo, Pratt Fox and Vibert, Alternate
Opposed – None

The motion passed 3 – 0.

2. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to the Historic District Commission at this time.

3. BUSINESS

- A) Application for Certificate of Appropriateness - #2014-013C
Town of Cheshire, The Cheshire Historical Society
43 Church Drive
Replace Lucille Williams Garden Sign

Commissioners reviewed the application from Town of Cheshire, The Cheshire Historical Society for a sign replacement at 43 Church Drive and agreed that they were ready to act on this application.

MOTION by James Vibert to approve Certificate of Appropriateness application # 2014-013C from Town of Cheshire, The Cheshire Historical Society for replacement of the Lucille Williams Garden Sign at 43 Church Drive as submitted and presented at tonight's Public Hearing. **SECONDED** by Joseph Dattilo.

VOTE: In Favor –Dattilo, Pratt Fox and Vibert, Alternate
Opposed – None

The motion passed 3 – 0.

B) Committees

1. Education / Community Outreach Committee
 - a. Plan of Conservation and Development

Chairman Pratt Fox, Ms. Chesanow and Mr. Sitko met recently with Town Planner Voelker to discuss the Plan of Conservation and

Development and information the Historic District Commission would like to add regarding historic properties in Cheshire. Mr. Voelker has suggested a few wording changes so that the section will match with the Planning & Zoning Regulations. The next step is for Ms. Pittsley to finish up the maps for the Plan of Conservation and Development.

2. Regulations / Rules

a. Design Guidelines

All of the text has been finalized for the Design Guidelines now Chairman Pratt Fox is working to finalize the images for the Design Guidelines so that they can be sent to Catherine Donegan in the Planning Office for the final review, layout and formatting.

F) Chairman's Report

Chairman Pratt Fox noted that the Town and First Congregational Church have both submitted pre-applications to the Connecticut Trust for consideration for a Maintenance and Repair Grant. The Town is looking for assistance in repairing the front steps of Town Hall. The First Congregational Church is looking to repair and paint the church steeple.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by James Vibert to adjourn the September 2, 2014 meeting of the Historic District Commission at 7:55 p.m.; **SECONDED** by Joseph Dattilo.

VOTE: In Favor – Dattilo, Pratt Fox and Vibert
Opposed – None

The motion passed 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski
Recording Secretary