

**Historic District Commission
Town Hall, Room 121
Meeting Minutes, June 16, 2015**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM. Attending Kathy Acerbo-Bachmann (KAB), David Foley (DF), David Honn (DH), Ron Regan (RR) Anita Rogers (AR).

Absent: David Shoemaker (DS), Pamela Lynn (PL), and Chingsung Chang as BofS rep.

7:30 PM Citizen's Questions

7:35 PM Approved Minutes by Consent: June 10.

RR recused himself. COA to be sent for Windsor Ave. ,CC to the Hickeys.
Per KAB all relevant minutes to be sent to the Hickeys by PL.
RR rejoined.

7:40 PM Violations Review. Frank Ramsbottom joins to discuss violations.

- 102 Main St.: A previously approved door and wooden stairs were built differently than approved. The door is easily remedied by having a new amendment entered by the homeowner. The stairs must be negotiated as they were not built as approved and are not painted. Two windows were replaced by vinyl windows, these were neither requested nor approved. Frank will contact the homeowners.
- Old Post Office building/Old School Realty: The roof vent unit must be removed. Also neon signs must be removed.
- 24 River St.: The satellite dish must be removed. It was to have been removed when the roof was done.
- 82 River St.: The satellite dish must be removed. It was supposed to have been removed when the roof was done in 2014.
- West Acton neon signs: Twin Seafood, Mobile Mart, New London Pizza, Red White and Brew – signs too large, and are neon signs. Graphic Connections – the temporary sign has been up for approximately 10 years.
- 554 Massachusetts Ave: Heat pump not installed to diagram. PVC piping was to be painted.
- Other neon signs are in West Acton
- Frank said no approvals from the board of selectmen were needed in order to send the mails to violators last time.
- KB asks Frank to contact them for remediation by phone or visit. If no reply is received then we will use mail. If no reply is received we will move to put into place two violation fines.

- Zoning should be involved in mails concerning signs. Roland said that no sign violations would be responded to by his department. Zoning and HDC guidelines must be adhered to. HDC votes unanimously for Frank to send the letters. Drafts are to be reviewed first concerning signage.
- The Acton House of Pizza has a neon sign.
- MBTA fence –DH to attend train station meeting Thursday. Will inquire about the new fence and material as well as the existing chain link fence.

8:15 PM 47 School Street: Fence

Moved on agenda to 8:15. Milling out of new material/wood and painting the ends. The new material is real wood, treated differently than pressure treated wood. Will be painted to match the house. Abutter's notices to be sent by DF. DF moves that the fence posts on the left and right side of the home are to be reused. Claymark Gold pickets are to be installed and painted to match the house while the remaining old pickets to be removed. AR seconds, no discussion, all vote in favor. DF to issue a CA.

8:30 PM 487 Main Street: Door

It was witnessed that the door is in the public view. Applicant requested to send a better photo of the existing door to note details. If it matches the proposed replacement exactly than a CNA may be issued with a note specifying that it must be painted.

8:45 PM 525-545 Massachusetts Avenue: Review of Changes in Project and Proposed Solutions

- Middle Building: The proposed crown piece is too small to present and view, inconsistent with other trim. 1) leave in place the bottom 8.5 foot trim 2) replace $\frac{3}{4}$ " trim with 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ proud of below trim 3) top $\frac{3}{4}$ " proud, 6 3/8 tall and $\frac{3}{4}$ " proud. AR/DH to research several discrepancies: flashing that is bigger vs. plans, paint to match the roof color, shingles or additional lead flashing over the existing.
- Downspouts: have samples, attaching to wing forward and supply box. Second downspout for barn is sized differently but appropriate for the water volume. Color of downspouts is white to match the trim color.
- Guardrail: drawing indicates locations to be installed.
- Photos show that a unanticipated section of the building is visible. Will require screening TBD post construction. All trim on these parts must be per HDC specification.
- DH/ AR prioritize screen as more important than railings and will raise this issue now.
- DH/AR to research barn roof edge dimensions
- Motion by AR:
 - Move to approve amendment 0906AAA, all 6 downspouts as required per samples

- Require flashing below crown molding on roof of Blue House, painted grey as roof or covered with lead or lead coated copper (owner's preference)
- Cheek lines of Blue House has dormer to be painted trim color as the window casings and sills
- Flat porch roof eave of middle building be altered to match attached detail sketch, reference option C
- Guardrail at edge of paving to be approved per site plan and photos submitted
- It is noted by HDC that the balcony at the rear of the barn is unexpectedly visible from the public way. HDC requires the owner to revise the landscaping plan prior to the installation to ensure the view of the balcony will be fully obscured
- Motion seconded by DF and approved unanimously.

9:00 PM 65 School Street: Roof

Owner proposes Timberline regular HD, HDC has preference not to use "ultra HD", as it detracts from the architecture. AR moves we accept the proposed roof shingles as Timberline HD, charcoal color per sample. Ridge vent to run full length of the ridge and drip edge to be painted to match the white drip edge. Seconded by DF. Pending abutter notification, DF to send CA.

9:00 PM Review of Letter: Acton Center Traffic Study Solutions

The group had short discussion of the letter that David H wrote. The HDC collectively thought it brought up good points including the lack of goals.

9:30 PM 96 Main Street, Next Steps Stone Wall

Town engineer wants to keep the right of way clear and has stated he will oppose the wall being built. Applicant has contingent approval to build from HDC pending Planning Dept. approval. RR to attend BoS hearing on behalf of applicant to voice HDC support. DH notes an existing and similar arrangement on Taylor Rd. Also notes the wall previously existed as evidenced by the current granite posts. If this was a repair instead the applicant would be within his rights. KB suggests applicant offer to maintain the wall post installation, town may need a perpetual maintenance statement.

9:45 PM 545 Massachusetts Ave: Signage for Brewery

No application has been received.

Meeting adjourned at 10:09 PM