

RIDGEFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Lower Level Small Conference Room
Town Hall, 400 Main Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
November 19, 2020

APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Ridgefield Historic District Commission (“HDC”) was held via teleconferencing, which was open to the public, on Thursday, November 19, 2020, and beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Dan O’Brien, Chair
Briggs Tobin, Vice Chair
Sean O’Kane
Rhys Moore
Harriet Hanlon
Kathleen Daughters (Alternate)
Elizabeth DiSalvo (Alternate)

AGENDA

- 1) **62 High Ridge Avenue – Roof replacement**
- 2) **2021 Regularly Scheduled Meetings – Approval of meeting dates**

MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Mr. D. O’Brien at 7:32 p.m.

1) **62 High Ridge Avenue – Roof replacement**

Mr. Alex Wattles, the homeowner, was present.

A. Wattles said since the site visit on November 8th, he didn’t have a chance to do much since he had been ill. He had nothing to add to the application process at this point. D. O’Brien asked if A. Wattles had a chance to speak with a roofer, as suggested by S. O’Kane, who had experience with wood shingle roofs. A. Wattles said that he didn’t have a chance to do so. D. O’Brien asked if A. Wattles wanted to defer hearing on the application to the next meeting. A. Wattles said he agreed.

A. Wattles said he was aware of the Commission’s view on replacing wood shingles with an asphalt shingle product. D. O’Brien reiterated that the HDC design guidelines state that it is not a preferred practice to change from an appropriate historically wood shingle roof to a lesser type of asphalt roof material. That was the hurdle to be met on this application.

A. Wattles said he had a question about the house paint color. Did he need HDC approval? D. O’Brien said A. Wattles did not require HDC approval for paint color.

A. Wattles said there was another structure, a garage that couldn't be seen from the road, that required a new roof too. Would that require approval too? D. O'Brien asked what kind of roof was on garage now. A. Wattles said it had a wood shingle roof. D. O'Brien said the HDC had to make a determination as to whether it was visible from the road or other public way. D. O'Brien said he would be happy to visit with any HDC Commission member who wished to join him. They would take a look at the property and check the visibility from the public street or public way. Visibility sometimes depended on angle of the line of sight. The Commission cannot take into account trees or landscaping in terms of visibility. S. O'Kane asked if the garage was attached to house. A. Wattles said the garage was detached. D. O'Brien asked A. Wattles to let the HDC know his availability. The HDC were flexible to drop by.

D. O'Brien asked A. Wattles if he wanted more time to flush out the issues raised and have an opportunity to speak with another roofer. A. Wattles agreed. D. O'Brien suggested that it made sense to defer further consideration of the application until the December meeting to which the Commission members agreed. D. O'Brien advised the next meeting would be on December 17th and A. Wattles' application would be on that agenda.

2) 2021 Regularly Schedule Meetings – Approval of meeting dates

E. DiSalvo moved and S. O'Kane seconded a motion to approve the 2021 regularly scheduled meetings. Motion passed 5-0.

3) Approval of the September 17, 2020 HDC meeting and November 8, 2020 HDC Special meeting & Site Visit minutes

K. Daughters moved and B. Tobin seconded a motion to approve the September 17, 2020 HDC meeting minutes. Motion passed 5-0.

K. Daughters moved and S. O'Kane seconded a motion to approve the November 8, 2020 HDC Special meeting & Site Visit minutes. Motion passed 5-0.

B. Tobin moved and R. Moore seconded a motion to adjourn the Historic District Commission meeting at 7:59 p.m. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Fields
Recording Secretary