

RIDGEFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Town Hall, 400 Main Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
May 11, 2023

Policy: Historic District Commission meetings will be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order and all participants are expected to conduct themselves with dignity and treat all those present with respect, empathy and civility.

APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Ridgefield Historic District Commission (“HDC”) was held in the lower level small conference room of the Town Hall, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877, on Thursday, May 11, 2023, and beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Dan O’Brien (Chair), Sean O’Kane, Kam Daughters, and Sara Kaplan (alternate for Harriet Hanlon)

AGENDA

- 1) St. Stephen’s Rectory – 355 Main Street – Wrap Around Porch Repair and Restoration**
- 2) 9 Branchville Road – Detached Garage / Barn in Front Yard**
- 3) 20 West Lane – Signage for New Restaurant**
- 4) Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- **April 13, 2023 – Regular Meeting at 6:30pm**
- **April 13, 2023 –Special Meeting at 6:30pm**

Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Dan O’Brien at 6:30 p.m.

- 1) St. Stephen’s Rectory – 355 Main Street – Wrap Around Porch Repair and Restoration**

Based on the site visit, the applicant plans to do additional research. Once they have updated their plans, they will report to the commission at a later date.

- 2) 9 Branchville Road – Detached Garage / Barn in Front Yard**

Mr. Michael Weiss did not attend. He will advise at a later date.

3) **20 West Lane – Signage for New Restaurant**

Mr. O'Brien distributed pictures of the Bernard's post and new signage. He said he had spoken with Dave Studwell, new property owner, who was using the prior restaurant's sign post. The name plate pops out and is easily replaced by another sign for the new restaurant. He asked if the Commissioners had any questions about the sign and they agreed. Mr. O'Brien called Dave Studwell. All were introduced.

Ms. Daughters asked about the significance of the key on the sign, rather than the number. Mr. Studwell said that was a reference back to Benjamin Franklin. The restaurant is to be called The Benjamin.

Mr. O'Kane asked if the sign was lighted. Mr. Studwell said the original sign was lighted. They were not changing it so it would remain lighted. There were two lights built in to the sign posts.

Mr. O'Kane moved and Ms. Kaplan seconded a motion to approve the application as presented for the new signage for The Benjamin for the restaurant. Motion passed 4-0.

4) **Approval of the April 13, 2023 HDC minutes and April 13, 2023 Special meeting minutes at 7:00p.m.**

Mr. O'Kane moved and Ms. Daughters seconded a motion to approve the April 13, 2023 HDC minutes and April 13, 2023 HDC Special meeting minutes at 7:00p.m. Motion passed 4-0.

Ms. Kaplan moved and Mr. O'Kane seconded a motion to adjourn the Historic District Commission Meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. Fields
Recording Secretary