

Minutes of the Canaan Historic District Commission Meeting

Approved minutes, September 19, 2022

The Canaan Historic District Commission met at the Mascoma Community Health Center September 19, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. pursuant to notice duly given.

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Bergeron. The other regular members present were Mike Roy and Tom Milligan. Also present were alternate members: George Foley and Chris Wolcott. John Dyer also attended.

The Chair appointed Tom Milligan to be acting Secretary since Elizabeth Jutile was absent. The Chair also appointed George Foley a voting member since regular members Scott Borthwick and Elizabeth Jutile were absent.

The minutes of the August 15, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Upon motion of Mike Roy and second by George Foley the minutes were approved as amended changing “public meeting” to “public hearing.”

The Chair reported the welcome signs had been repaired and replaced.

Some discussion was held of the 911 location number signs promoted by the Fire Department. No action was taken.

Some members and alternates need to take the oath of office: Tom Milligan as a member whose term expires in 2023; Elizabeth Jutile as a member whose term expires in 2025; Chris Wolcott as an alternate whose term expires in 2025. Also Bill Van Zandt and George Foley as alternates.

At 7:35 the Chair convened the public hearing to consider the application of Laura Smith to construct a fence at 40 Moss Flower Lane, in the names of Laura and Procter Smith, Map I-D, lot 35. Neither the Smiths nor any public person appeared to speak to the application.

At 7:44 the public hearing was closed and the district meeting continued. After extensive discussion and having explored various options to address the issues, the Commission, upon motion of Mike Roy and second by George Foley, denied the application by a vote of 3 to 1. The reasons for the denial of the application were:

1. The fence had already been erected without prior approval of the Commission.
Historical District Regulations, Section 1
2. The fence exceeds the height restriction set out by the regulations without a waiver. Historical District Regulations, Section VI. E. 4
3. The fence is not of a style required by the regulations without a waiver.
Historical District Regulations, Section VI. E. 4
4. The fence is inconsistent with the third purpose of the regulations which is to
“Foster civic beauty.” Historical District Regulations, Purpose III

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. upon the motion of Mike Roy and second by George Foley and unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Milligan, Acting Secretary