

BOROUGH OF FENWICK
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING – January 7, 2023

A Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of the Fenwick Historic District Commission was held at 4 Nibang Avenue and via Zoom on Saturday, January 7, 2023. Notice of the meeting was posted in a timely manner on the Fenwick kiosk, on the website, and in the Harbor News.

Members Present: Matt Myers, Valerie Bulkeley, Deborah Neely, Mike Reynolds (Alternate).

Members Present via Zoom: Patsy Jones, Beverly Keeney, Scott Pulver (Alternate), Ashley Gengras (Alternate).

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Marilyn Ozols, ZEO and HDC Compliance Official.

Others Present via Zoom: Sara Frelinghuysen.

1. Call to order.

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. All regular members were present and seated. A quorum was established (Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones).

2. Public Hearing: 30 Fenwick Avenue, map 10, lot 30. Thomas & Darlene Ryder owners and applicants; Ashley Gengras additional applicant. Application HDC22-021 to replace wood deck with composite.

A. Gengras, who was not seated, presented. She stated that they are changing the flooring – removing the wood and installing a composite, Aeratis Heritage, in a gray color pretty much the same as what is there; they will retain the existing railing and stairs and paint the stairs to match the deck color; this is the same material used at the McCann house.

Members noted that this is similar to what has been done on several other houses and had no questions.

After asking for public comment and any additional input, **on a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by D. Neely, it was voted unanimously to close the public hearing and go into regular session.**

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

3. Possible Action on HDC22-021: 30 Fenwick Avenue.

Based on the discussion in the hearing, **D. Neely moved to approve the application as presented/submitted and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC22-021, 30 Fenwick Avenue, to replace the wood deck with a composite material.**

V. Bulkeley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

On a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by D. Neely, it was voted unanimously to go back into public hearing.

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

- 4. Public Hearing: 41 Agawam Avenue, map 10, lot 34.** Louisine & Sarah Frelinghuysen owners; Virginia Robinson, applicant. Application HDC22-022 to replace wood porch floor with composite; add lattice around ac units.

S. Frelinghuysen presented. She stated that they propose to replace the front porch deck with a composite material the same as the previous application in a platinum gray similar to the existing color; there will be no change to the configuration. Additionally, they propose to install lattice around the ac units similar to what is around the generator.

Members had no questions.

After asking for public comment and any additional input, **on a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by D. Neely, it was voted unanimously to close the hearing and go into regular session.**

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

5. Possible Action on HDC22-022: 41 Agawam Avenue.

Based on the discussion in the hearing, **V. Bulkeley moved to approve the application as presented/submitted and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC22-22, 41 Agawam Avenue, to replace the wood porch floor with a composite material and to add lattice around the ac units. D. Neely seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

6. Reports on Current Projects.

M. Ozols reported that the generator at 6 Pettipaug Avenue is temporary – the actual generator will be screened once it is installed.

M. Reynolds asked when the osprey platform on the Gosin property will be lowered. M. Ozols stated she will remind the contractor again and find out.

7. Approval of Minutes: November 5, 2022.

V. Bulkeley moved that the minutes of the previous HDC meeting on November 5, 2022 be accepted as written. D. Neely seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

8. Old Business / Other Business.

a. Hedges

M. Ozols stated that she has started to create an inventory of all the hedges in the Borough but has not yet had time to research them all. Once the inventory is complete, there will be a record of which hedges are

on private property and which are on Borough property as well as which had height stipulations. This will make it easier to follow up on violations.

b. Design Criteria

M. Myers stated that it has been brought to his attention that sometimes a design is put forward that meets the criteria but doesn't look like a Fenwick house. He suggested that perhaps they should review the criteria. M. Reynolds agreed that it is nice to carry forward the Fenwick look.

V. Bulkeley stated that there are some original Fenwick cottages but all the buildings should not look alike like a Levittown; individual differences are good; HDC should try to make the houses fit in but people should be able to put their own personality on their houses; HDC should not be the design Nazi's.

M. Reynolds asked what if a modern house meets the criteria. D. Neely noted that many houses will need to be raised in the future because of rising sea level and HDC should be able to accommodate this. V. Bulkeley added that the criteria should allow for people to use their properties without variances; HDC should be somewhat flexible.

M. Ozols suggested that members find pictures of houses that might not be appropriate and apply the criteria to determine if it works or if there are deficiencies that should be addressed.

c. Door Replacement

V. Bulkeley stated that they will be replacing doors at their house; the new doors will be the same material and design. She asked if this would need to come to HDC. The answer was that no application is needed for an in kind replacement.

9. Adjourn.

On a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by D. Neely, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:17 a.m.

The next meeting is Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn M. Ozols, Acting Clerk