

BOROUGH OF FENWICK
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING – FEBRUARY 6, 2020
VIRTUAL MEETING, 9:00 AM

A special Meeting and Public Hearing of the Fenwick Historic District Commission was held using the Zoom meeting format on Saturday, February 6, 2021. Notice of the meeting was posted in a timely manner on the Fenwick kiosk and on the website.

Members Present: Matt Myers, Valerie Bulkeley, Deborah Neely, Beverly Keeney, Patsy Jones, Scott Pulver (Alternate), Mike Reynolds (Alternate)

Members Absent: Ashley Gengras (Alternate).

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

1. Call to order

Chairman Myers/Vice Chairman Bulkeley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was established (Myers, Bulkeley, Neely, Keeney, Jones).

2. 2 Agawam Avenue, map 10, lot 8. Michael & Margaret Reynolds, owners, and Michael Reynolds, applicant. Modification Application HDC21-001 for lights, garage door design, railings, cupola, drop down screens, doorway overhang, lattice enclosures, lattice gate, gravel driveway, and hardscape.

M. Reynolds recused himself and presented. He stated that this application is for additional items not included in the 9/12/2020 Certificate of Appropriateness and he reviewed each elevation:

South:

- Addition of railings along the first floor porch. They will be similar to those at 6 Pettipaug Avenue and multiple other locations in the Borough; it is a nice detail and sets the porch off from the street.
- 5 sconces. A photo was submitted; they will be similar to the existing sconce in the courtyard
- 5" copper gutters with a leader on the northwest corner.

East:

- Continuation of the front porch railings.
- French doors with a bracketed roof overhang.
- Lattice screen for the previously approved air conditioner units.
- Garage doors replaced – new design, corners squared off.
- Cupola on the garage roof – Azek with a copper roof; 6 windows on each side.
- Lattice topped storage area for garbage cans, etc.
- Sconces by door and garage doors.

North:

- Lattice for ac/storage area and courtyard.
- 2nd floor porch door changed from double doors to a single door with mullions to match the other windows.
- Second floor porch railing to match front porch railing.
- Sconces that match the other new sconces.
- Garage storage area with double doors; siding to match garage.

West:

- Shows cupola, garage storage and front porch railing.

In response to a question, he stated that the garage storage area will be 6 feet deep and 12 feet wide; it will allow him to keep the yard more neat.

Members discussed the cupola. M. Reynolds stated that it will include a lantern for appearance that will probably be lit with a low voltage light from dusk to dawn; it will be a soft light and the hours can be adjusted. P. Jones indicated that the light might be an issue and V. Bulkeley agreed noting that lighting it created a more commercial look. M. Reynolds indicated that he would like to put the light in as a design feature regardless, and lighting it can be reviewed again after the cupola is in place. He added that no weathervane is planned at this time.

Landscaping. M. Reynolds reviewed the landscape plan prepared by R. Worcester:

South:

- The existing privet will be maintained at 4 feet in height; they will be trimming back all of the bushes.
- There will be two new, small trees that will be maintained, boxwood along the porch and flowering plants.
- A grass area in the front will be outlined with bluestone.

West:

- The ac will be screened by boxwood.

East:

- There will be various plantings including hydrangea.
- There will be a bluestone patio with plantings to break it up outside the French doors. They will likely have a firepit on the patio but it will not be built in.
- The driveway will be replaced with a new steel edged, stone driveway and will include an extension for an additional car.
- The existing tree, that is not in good shape, will be replaced with a new small tree to help block the parking area.

North

- The lilacs will be trimmed back.
- The generator in the corner by the easement will be planted with hydrangeas.

Members noted that hydrangeas do not provide year-round cover. M. Reynolds agreed to instead plant the area with evergreens and then add hydrangeas.

M. Reynolds reviewed the rest of the submission including the sconce design, noting that the sconces would be a dark antique bronze; the cupola, which will have an onion light inside for decoration and no weathervane at this time; the railing; and the gutters, which will patina over time. He noted that the existing gutters on the house will not be changed at this time.

M. Myers asked about the porch screens. M. Reynolds stated that they originally planned to use screen panels that would be replaced with glass panels in the winter, but now propose retractable vinyl/screen panels similar to what is at the Myers house and several other locations in the Borough. He added that the vinyl will have a thin white edge, as small as is possible, and the units will go behind the railings so will not obscure them. He clarified that the panels are proposed only for the southeast corner of the porch.

V. Bulkeley asked for clarification of the cupola. M. Reynolds stated that the elevation drawings are correct and the windows will be three over three. He added that they will be using Cape Cod Cupola rather than East Coast Cupola.

Based on the discussion, **V. Bulkeley moved to approve the application as presented and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Modification Application HDC21-001 for lights, garage door**

design, railings, cupola, drop down screens, doorway overhang, lattice enclosures, lattice gate, gravel driveway, and hardscape with the stipulations that the screening for the outside mechanicals will be evergreen plantings, the hedge will be kept at a maximum height of 4 feet, and the cupola can include a decorative light but it cannot be lit. D. Neely seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

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

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

3. Approval of Minutes: January 9, 2021.

V. Bulkeley moved that the minutes of the previous HDC meeting on January 9, 2021 be accepted as written. P. Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

4. Adjourn.

On a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by B. Keeney it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn M. Ozols, Acting Clerk