

BOROUGH OF FENWICK
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING – MAY 7, 2016
4 NIBANG AVENUE, 9:00 AM

A Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of the Fenwick Historic District Commission was held at 4 Nibang Avenue, Old Saybrook, Connecticut on Saturday, May 7, 2016. Notice of the meeting was posted in a timely manner on the Fenwick kiosk and in the Borough office.

Members Present: Patsy Jones, Pam Christensen (Alternate), Valerie Bulkeley (Alternate).

Members Absent: Matt Myers, David Savin, Joan Wright, Honey Adams, Susan Webster (Alternate).

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

1. Call to order.

Vice Chairman Bulkeley called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and seated P. Christensen and herself as voting members. A quorum was established (Bulkeley, Jones, Christensen).

2. Public Hearing: 18 Pettipaug Avenue, map 10, lot 44. Christopher & Eileen Millard, owners, Brooke Girty Design, applicant; Application HDC16-009 to replace double hung windows on north elevation with French doors; add heat pump condenser on west side.

P. Christensen recused herself for this application.

B. Girty presented. She used an aerial plan to show the location of the ac in the corner on the west façade facing Dewing. She stated that there are existing bushes but more will be added and the ac unit will be behind, and screened by, the bushes. She added that they are currently “freshening up” the interior of the house but they will also want to replace existing windows on the north side with French doors in order to create a more direct access to the pool area. The work will likely not be done until fall. Members agreed with the doors and noted that the C of A would be good for two years.

After asking for any additional input and discussing the proposal with the applicant, **on a motion by P. Jones seconded by V. Bulkeley, it was voted unanimously to close the public hearing and go into regular session.**

For: Bulkeley, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

3. Possible Action on Application HDC16-009, 18 Pettipaug Avenue.

Based on the discussion in the hearing, **P. Jones moved to approve the application as submitted and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC16-009 to replace the double hung windows on the north elevation with French doors and add a heat pump condenser on the west side.**

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

For: Bulkeley, Jones.

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

P. Christensen returned to her seat.

4. **Fenwick Beach, map 10, lot 1.** Borough of Fenwick, owner and applicant. Modification Application HDC16-002 to add two cedar posts in hedge by beach gate.

M. Ozols explained that when the gate to the beach is closed, people cut through a gap in the hedge. A resident suggested to the Superintendent that two posts be installed in the hedge on either side of the “path” to prevent it from becoming wider over time. He is proposing using two cedar fenceposts for this purpose. Members reviewed a photograph of the fence with the gap and indicated that the hedge should be continuous as originally planted without a “path”. They indicated that the missing plants should be replaced and one section of the gate left open or opened in the morning so that there would not be a need for a path through the hedge.

Based on the discussion, **P. Jones moved to deny Application HDC16-010 as submitted, request that the area be replanted as originally approved and propose that one section of the gate be opened to allow passage. P. Christensen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

For: Bulkeley, Jones, Christensen.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

It was noted that the hedge should not have been altered by the removal of shrubs without requesting a modification of the Certificate of Appropriateness.

5. **Statutory Approvals:** None.

6. **Administrative Permits:**

- a. 18 Pettipaug/Millard: interior renovations
- b. 5 Nibang/Patterson: in-kind repair/replace siding/roof

7. **Approval of Minutes: March 18, 2016.**

P. Christensen moved that the minutes of the previous HDC meeting on March 18, 2016 be accepted as distributed. P. Jones seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

For: Bulkeley, Jones, Christensen.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

8. **Old Business / Other Business.**

- a. **21 Neponset, HDC14-026** for shed.

M. Ozols reported that M. Sbriglio would be moving the shed by the deadline. It would have been moved already but the site preparation was delayed by an illness in the landscaper’s family.

- b. **Regulations and Design Standards.**

- i. proposed modifications to list of Regulated Activities

The modification shown is to indicate that free standing birdhouses are regulated. The hearing will be deferred until the summer season. Members should review the lists to see if there are other items that should be listed so that all can be addressed in one hearing.

- ii. consideration of any other updates

No discussion.

- c. **Mailboxes at intersection of Sequassen and Neponset.**

A request had been received for HDC to consider the appearance of the assorted mailboxes at the intersection of Neponset and Sequassen Avenues. Members reviewed a photograph but noted that standard postal service mailboxes are not a regulated activity. They discussed whether this group of mailboxes might be something that the Borough wanted to consider addressing, but agreed that they did not want to encourage a standardized look like one might see in a condominium development, but rather that this characteristically rural configuration was preferred.

d. **29A Pettipaug.**

It was clarified that the large pile of dirt will be removed shortly when the landscaping work is done. Members noted that the white lattice should become less conspicuous when the area is planted out and questioned whether the number of steps to the front entryway is more than was approved. Nine were shown on the approved plan.

9. **Adjourn.**

On a motion by P. Christensen, seconded by P. Jones it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn M. Ozols, Acting Clerk