

BOROUGH OF FENWICK
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING – JUNE 5, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING, 9:00 AM

A Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of the Fenwick Historic District Commission was held using the Zoom meeting format on Saturday, June 5, 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, Patsy Jones, Deborah Neely, Beverly Keeney, Scott Pulver (Alternate).

Members Absent: Mike Reynolds (Alternate), Ashley Gengras (Alternate).

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

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: 20 Agawam Avenue, map 10, lot 51. James & Kecia Greenho, owners and applicants. Application HDC21-008 to add propane tank screened by lattice. Continued from May 1, 2021.

The applicant was not present but pictures had been submitted to show the lattice area. The contractor installed the screening after the last HDC meeting on the assumption that action was taken at that meeting. Members noted that it is standard fare for screening propane tanks and had no questions or concerns.

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

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

3. Possible Action on HDC21-008, 20 Agawam Avenue.

Based on the discussion in the hearing, **P. Jones moved to approve the application as presented and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC21-008, 20 Agawam Avenue, to add a propane tank screened by lattice. V. Bulkeley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
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, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

4. Public Hearing: 4 Nibang Avenue, map 10, lot 1-2. Borough of Fenwick, owner and applicant. Application HDC21-013 to install security cameras.

M. Ozols stated that security cameras are planned for 4 Nibang. They will be placed under the eaves in the locations noted on the photos. They should be fairly inconspicuous; the Borough made a concerted effort to find cameras that would not stand out and rejected a model with long arm extensions. Members agreed that the camera installation made good sense and that the proposed installation was unobtrusive.

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, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

5. Possible Action on HDC21-013, 4 Nibang Avenue.

Based on the discussion in the hearing, **B. Keeney moved to approve the application as presented and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC21-013, 4 Nibang Avenue, to install security cameras. V. Bulkeley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

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

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

6. Public Hearing: 44 Sequassen Avenue, map 11, lot 2. Lynde Point LLC, owner, Robert Gay, applicant. Application HDC21-014 to install mini split with lattice screening on north side of house.

B. Gay presented. He stated that he is installing mini splits similar to what is installed on many other houses in the Borough; the exterior unit will be hung on the wall above the flood elevation on the north side of the house, next to the grill on the deck, under the laundry room window; the unit will be installed on a bracket with framed lattice screening; the lattice will go to the bottom of the shingles; the cable will tuck under the shingles so as to not be visible; there will be two interior units, but only one exterior unit. Members noted the location on the photos submitted with the application.

M. Myers stated that this will only be seen from the water and looks pretty innocuous. Members concurred.

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

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

7. Possible Action on HDC21-014, 44 Sequassen Avenue.

Members stated that they had no issues and in general try to accommodate heating and air conditioning installations.

Based on the discussion in and after the hearing, **P. Jones moved to approve the application as presented and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC21014, 44 Sequassen Avenue, to install mini splits, screened by lattice, on the north elevation. V. Bulkeley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

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

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

8. **Public Hearing: 30 Pettipaug Avenue, map 10, lot 32.** Jonathan & Valerie Bulkeley, owners, Valerie Bulkeley, applicant. Application HDC21-015 to install wrought iron railing.

P. Jones indicated that although she is an abutter, she can review the application objectively.

V. Bulkeley recused herself for this application and presented. S. Pulver was seated in her place.

V. Bulkeley stated that there are narrow steps on her terrace into her porch and she needs either a railing or a ramp to get into the porch. She stated that a ramp would be ugly so they are proposing a wrought iron railing, as simple as possible – two posts and a single 1” black rail. Pictures had been submitted with the application.

Members agreed with the simple design and noted that it is similar to railings all over the Borough and very unobtrusive.

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

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

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

9. **Possible Action on HDC21-015, 30 Pettipaug Avenue.**

Members stated this this is a safety issue.

Based on the discussion in and after the hearing, **B. Keeney moved to approve the application as presented and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC21-015, 30 Pettipaug Avenue, to install a wrought iron railing. D. Neely seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

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

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

V. Bulkeley resumed her seat at this time.

10. **11 Pettipaug Avenue, map 10, lot 52.** Eniotna LLP, owner, and Brooke Girty, applicant. Modification application HDC21-010 to add light fixtures, gutters; delete pergola, bluestone, bluestone terrace, shower enclosure, stone walk, 2 windows on west side, trellis, louvers at gable peaks; relocate ac; change metal railing to wood, section of first floor roof to copper; postpone first floor porch and railing. Gutters only this meeting.

M. Ozols stated that this is the one item in the application that was not presented at the previous meeting.

B. Girty presented. She stated that they are aluminum, white powder coated gutters that will run under every roof; the downspout locations will be determined by the technician and are not shown since it is impossible to know ahead of time where they will go; they are standard 5” half round gutters like what was on the house previously; and the gutters will match the trim.

V. Bulkeley stated that it would be nice to know where the downspouts will go; members have to use their imaginations if they are not drawn in. Members agreed but did not note any other concerns.

Based on the discussion, **V. Bulkeley moved to approve the application as presented and to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for Application HDC21-010, 11 Pettipaug Avenue, to install white half round, aluminum gutters with downspouts. P. Jones seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.**

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

Against: None.

Abstain: None.

11. **Approval of Minutes:** May 1, 2021.

B. Keeney moved that the minutes of the previous HDC meeting on May 1, 2021 be accepted as written.
V. Bulkeley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

For: Myers, Bulkeley, Jones, Neely, Keeney.
Against: None.
Abstain: None.

12. Old Business / Other Business.

M. Myers stated that he had seen an appendage on the south side of one of the houses under renovation on Sequassen Avenue and he did not recall approving it. M. Ozols will investigate.

P. Jones stated that the high hedge at Robertson had not been cut back. Members noted that the landscaping had not yet been done. M. Ozols will check the minutes and follow through.

Members expressed concern with the south facing windows on the new second story over the garage at Robertson but believed that they had been approved. V. Bulkeley reminded members that they need to be careful with huge projects like this because it is easy to miss small details. Members added that other than this concern, it is an amazing job.

V. Bulkeley reminded members of her previous suggestion that a member should volunteer or be assigned to track each major project. Any concerns should be reported to M. Ozols when identified rather than held until the next meeting. P. Jones volunteered to monitor the work at 6 Pettipaug.

V. Bulkeley asked about the fence at Millard. M. Ozols stated that she believes what is there is what was approved, but she will check again.

V. Bulkeley stated that her term is up this year and to date, the Burgesses have not reappointed her.

Members discussed Zoom versus in person meetings noting that in person is most important for large projects with more involved plans and when models are presented.

M. Ozols reminded the members that the next meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2021. The application deadline is Tuesday, June 22. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

13. Adjourn.

On a motion by V. Bulkeley, seconded by P. Jones it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn M. Ozols, Acting Clerk