

WISCASSET HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES, AUGUST 1, 2019

Present: Chair Susan Blagden, Pam Logan and Leslie Roberts

Absent: Phil DiVece

Chair Susan Blagden called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

1. Approve meeting minutes from July 25, 2019

Leslie Roberts moved to approve the minutes as amended. Vote 3-0-0.

2. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items – none

3. COA for cedar picket fence at 4 Bradbury Street

Martin O'Rourke presented his application to install 38 feet of four-foot-high cedar picket fencing on his property at 4 Bradbury Street. Leslie Roberts thanked Mr. O'Rourke for choosing a wood fence. He described the top of the pickets as round, not pointed, the same as the existing fence. Leslie Roberts moved to approve the COA application of Martin O'Rourke. Mr. O'Rourke will send a photo of the pickets for the commission's records. Vote 3-0-0.

4. COA for replacing clapboards with cedar shingles at 51 Water Street

Leslie Roberts moved to approve Craig Winston's COA application for 51 Water Street. Mr. Winston said he plans to place treated cedar shake shingles on the front of the building replacing the clapboards. He said the windows need replacing but no decision had been made on the type of window to be used, and he would submit a new application when the decision was made. An application must be submitted by August 15 in order to be considered at the September 5 meeting. Vote 3-0-0.

5. COA for additions/renovations at 12 Fore Street

Leslie Roberts moved to approve the COA application for 12 Fore Street. Linda Harris said plans were to add an all wood front yard fence with gate. The fence would be left natural, not painted. Susan Blagden suggested the Roberts consider investigating a heavy-duty stain. Plans also include a 10' x 19' stamped concrete parking pad east of the house with 10-foot square wood lattice. If pavers for the pad are ultimately chosen, an amended application will be required. In response to Susan Blagden's question, Mrs. Harris said the capped fence is classic for a Cape.

Don Davis, representing the Yacht Club, said the pavers were not under the realm of the commission's authority.

Linda Harris said the wooden fence behind the house would be replaced with a four-foot black aluminum fence with gate. Window boxes will be installed only on the two downstairs windows and will be painted wood, the same as the trim on the house.

Don Davis said there is a right-of-way through the Harris' property to the Yacht Club. He added that the Yacht Club was not opposed to the fence at the rear of the property, but that the Harrises should be aware that the right-of-way exists. Susan Blagden said the right-of-way was a legal question and not the purview of the commission. Vote 3-0-0.

Old Business

6. Update on steeple/town clock grants

Susan Blagden said she will ask the Town Manager what funds are available for repair of the clock. She and Leslie Roberts will research available grants.

7. Discussion of acceptable materials, suggested using Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines, (as required by 10.7.1)

New Business

8. How to encourage people to talk to the Commission BEFORE undertaking renovation/restoration work. Emphasis should be on maintaining so as to preserve properties.

9. Consideration going forward of Castine's Ordinance, with special look at its design and style guide.

10. We need to urge realtors to tell prospective buyers as part of standard disclosure if they are in the District.

11. Blagden suggesting sending out a survey to those who have appeared before the Commission asking how they felt they were treated, how we could improve. Logan will update Facebook page to encourage comments.

12. We need to concentrate on the good things we can for the Town. Ask Susan Johns if the Wiscasset Newspaper would do an article about the Commission.

Because the Commission will not have a quorum on August 15th that meeting has been rescheduled to August 22.

Motion to adjourn at 6:27 pm

Jacquie Lowell and Susan Blagden