

Woodstock Historic District Commission
Special Meeting
Woodstock Town Hall
January 8, 2015 8:00 p.m.
Minutes

1. Call to Order at 8:06. Members present: Gail White, Chair; Lyn Smith, Harold Bishop, Dan Atwood, Christine Lessig and Earl Manz. Appointment of alternates: not required. Public present: Headmaster Chris Sandford, Joe Campbell and Eric C. from Woodstock Academy.
2. Informational meeting introduced by G. White to inform the Commission regarding WA draft proposal of the use and constraints of the public address system for the Bentley Field complex. The proposal has been an on-going process with public input since October. The WA draft proposal is intended to be submitted to the WA Buildings and Grounds meeting on January 12th for further review with the intent of submitting the proposal to the WA Board of Directors later in the month for approval.

Commission discussion included the consideration that the sound levels and frequency of use is an issue that Planning and Zoning should most appropriately consider. While the sound from WA Bentley Field public address system is evident to the residents of the Woodstock Hill Historic District, it was recognized by Commissioners that other commercial activities within or adjacent to the Historic District present similar levels of sound, upon occasion, and that WA should not be singly addressed by P & Z, but rather that a town wide policy prevail.

The Commission respectfully requests that the following recommendations are incorporated into a sound ordinance to be implemented town-wide.

- Maximum decibel level be stipulated;
- Quantification of time at maximum decibel level be stipulated;
- Specific contact information be provided to the public in the event that sound levels exceed the maximum allowable by town ordinance.

While this Commission recognizes that this issue is not directly under its purview, it also recognizes that it is within the boundaries of its charge to make recommendations to P & Z regarding this issue. In that light, the Commission has requested the guidance of the CT Trust Circuit Rider program for advice and precedent in order to draft a formal letter to Planning and Zoning regarding regulation of sound levels within a National and State Register Historic District.

The Chair will respond to correspondence that has been generated from interest in this topic.

3. Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 on a motion by H. Bishop, second by D. Atwood with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Lyn Smith, Clerk

Please note that while these minutes may be published, they are not approved by the Commission until the next meeting date.