

Woodstock Historic District Commission
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2014
Minutes

1. Call to order at 8:05 by Chair Gail White Usher. Members present: Harold Bishop, Lyn Smith, Dan Atwood, Tim Monahan and alternate Christine Lessig. Public present: Jean McClellan, G. Leslie Sweetnam, Tom Chase and Earl Brazeal.
2. Designation of alternates: No alternate required
3. Public Hearing:
 - a) First Congregational Church of Woodstock, 543 Route 169, application for new signage. Leslie Sweetnam presented proposed signage to be 24" wide x 36" high x 5/4" thick, all of polyvinyl, with painted lettering similar to existing sign. Signage will be located in the same position, with the same plastic sheathed post and iron bracket hardware as the existing sign. While age of existing wood sign is unknown, the sign frame exhibits deterioration and the lettering needs to be modified to meet current pastorship. The proposed sign has been approved by church counsel.
 - ▲ Public comment by J McClellan: concern about sheen of plastic material, lack of weightiness of 3/4" thick plastic sign.
 - ▲ Motion to close public hearing by C. Lessig with a second by H. Bishop. No discussion. unanimous in favor.
 - b) Commissioner deliberation:
 - ▲ Scale of sign is appropriate. Discussion about plastic material as it relates to the historic natural materials of the church structure.
 - ▲ D. Atwood made a motion to deny the application because of inappropriate proposed material while acknowledging appropriateness of all other aspects of signage design. C. Lessig second. Discussion to make accommodation for special meeting if required. All in favor. Unanimous approval to deny application as presented.
 - ▲
4. Review of Minutes of November 25, 2013: T. Monahan moved to accept as presented. C. Lessig second. Majority approval with D. Atwood abstention.
5. Review of special meeting minutes to be tabled until the next meeting.
6. Correspondence
 - ▲ CT Trust Preservation News
 - ▲ Norwich Bulletin invoice
 - ▲ Selectmen's office budget request
 - ▲ SHPO re: annual report
7. Public Comment:
 - ▲ Earl Brazeal informally presented a conceptual design by the First Congregational Church of Woodstock to install solar panels on the roof of Harrison Hall to the rear of the sanctuary. Panels will be slightly visible from Route 169 and entirely visible from Roxbury Road. Maple tree between the parsonage and the church will need to be taken down to eliminate summer shading effect, and existing asphalt shingles will be replaced with new asphalt shingles. The Church has submitted a formal application for review at the February meeting.
8. Old Business
 - ▲ 2014-2015 Budget: D. Atwood moved to approve the budget as submitted, with a second by H. Bishop. Unanimous in favor of approval.

- ^ 2014 Agenda: potential projects might include Design Standards, historic district signage, traffic calming measures and house plaques.

8. New Business:

- ^ Election of Officers. Upon a motion by D. Atwood with a second by H. Bishop, Gail White Usher was nominated as Chair. All in favor. On a motion by D. Atwood and a second by H. Bishop, Tim Monahan was nominated as Vice Chair. All in favor. On a motion by D. Atwood and a second by H. Bishop, Lyn Smith was nominated as Clerk. All in favor.
- ^ Annual report to be filed with SHPO by the Chair.
- ^ Commission to bring forth potential member candidates to the next meeting.
- ^ Review Rules and Regulations to be tabled until the next meeting. Chair will circulate the current rules for review.

9. Adjournment on a motion by H. Bishop with a second by D. Atwood and all in favor at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Lyn Smith, Clerk

While these minutes may be published, they are not approved by the Commission until the next meeting.