

MINUTES  
TOWN OF GROTON  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.  
GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: Nado, Mitchell, Cole, Gilly, Vaughn  
Alternates Present: None  
Staff: Quinn, Galetta

Chairman Nado called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and re-opened the public hearing.

### I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 09-33 – 368 Noank Road; Sally McGee and Sarah Cahill, owners; Sally McGee, applicant; Install picket type and round rail fencing around the house. PIN #261805271647

Sally McGee, owner of 368 Noank Road, appeared before the Commission to propose building a fence to enclose her yard. She would like to construct a four foot high picket fence that will extend from both sides of her house with a walk-thru gate on the south side. A round rail fence with black box wire is also being proposed to enclose the backyard area. The posts will be four feet and the rails will be three feet. The box wire will be attached beneath the bottom rung. The applicant presented photographic examples of comparable fences in the historic district that are four feet high and a picture of the actual fence she wishes to construct. The picket fence will have a standard 2” spacing with 2¼” pickets and hidden posts. The Commission felt that the picket fence would be appropriate given the fact that it will have a more open spacing and it sits back from the road. The box wire fence is utilitarian and will blend in with the surrounding backyard area.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Photographs
- Plot Plan

Chairman Nado asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing closed at 7:31 p.m.

### II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 09-33 – 368 Noank Road

MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by Cole, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1710.

### III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Jonathan and Anni Rogers appeared before the Commission to propose the construction of a single family dwelling on property located at 208 High Street. They have chosen to use an L-Shaped structure with a wrap around porch and detached garage. The Commission was concerned about the impact of a house of this size to the surrounding neighborhood. A

perspective view of the house was presented. The house design was discussed. The Commission also had concerns about the massing of the garage in relation to the house. There were also issues with the south elevation that the applicants will address. The siding, trim, windows, doors, and various other details were presented and discussed.

Rusty Sergeant appeared before the Commission regarding property located at 239 High Street owned by Mark Tiesinga. The proposal is for a two-story addition on rear of the house. The objective is to put a master bedroom on the second floor and enlarge the living space on the first floor. The plan is to put a gable-end bracket and standing seam roof on front of house. Additionally, there will be a new cut glass window added and a dormer on the driveway side. The Commission felt that the proposed changes will add significant mass to the house and will individually visit the site to consider the impact of the changes to the structure.

Bob & Mike Robotham, of Crossroads Builders LLC, appeared before the Commission regarding property at 7 Gravel Street, owned by GRVL LLC. They discussed changes to a previously issued COA for renovations to the property. The changes are proposed, particularly, for the back of the structure. The applicants also submitted sample stucco textures and colors to the Commission. Window changes were discussed along with column details. The Commission requested details and a materials list for the public hearing.

Kristen Vaughn, the owner of 42 Clift Street, appeared before the Commission regarding the addition of a section of wooden fencing perpendicular to Pearl Street and ending at the side of her house. The fence will match the existing fence along Pearl Street. She is also proposing the addition of a gate and an "English Country Garden" pergola.

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - None

#### V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF September 1, 2009

MOTION: To approve the minutes of September 1, 2009

Motion made by Mitchell, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

#### VI. OLD BUSINESS

The Commission requested the status on the Rod Desmarais matter regarding his property at 81 High Street. Staff stated that it is in the Court system and we are just waiting to hear the ruling.

#### VII. NEW BUSINESS

Staff stated that a memorandum will be drafted regarding a proposal by Connecticut real estate agents to allow temporary signs for any event 12 hours or less.

The new single family dwelling approved by the Commission at 219 Library Street was discussed. The structure has skylights which were not part of the design on the architectural plans approved by the Commission.

#### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. made by Mitchell, seconded by Vaughn, so voted unanimously.

Historic District Commission  
September 15, 2009  
Page 3

---

Elaine Cole, Secretary  
Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II