

TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD
WEST HARTFORD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
7:30 P.M., Wednesday December 15, 2021

Special Meeting:

Present: Full Commissioners: C. Cormier, M. Lewis and A. Tarutin.
Alternate Commissioner: J. Harris.

Commissioner M. Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:54 P.M.

1. New Business-

James Macchio, owner of 1563 Boulevard, came before the West Hartford Historic District Commission (WHHDC) to discuss two Certificates of Appropriateness (COAs) to:

- i) replace all the existing wooden windows with vinyl, and
- ii) install a vinyl fence around the southern back area of the property.

Mr. Macchio is the new owner of 1563 Boulevard and is actively renovating the property inside and out with an eye towards reselling once the improvements are complete. The WHHDC impressed on the new owner that this house is one of the highest visibility properties in the entire Commission stable with hundreds if not thousands of impressions made every day and certainly every week.

The WHHDC listened to the fence ideas making clear its disapproval of vinyl generally. The WHHDC welcomes a wooden 6ft cedar fence along the South property line and a 3 foot picket style fence along the top of the rise parallel to Raymond. Such picket fencing is already tastefully installed along Raymond.

Mr Macchio withdrew his vinyl fence COA and will resubmit one per the above.

The WHHDC expressed concern and took objection to Mr Macchio having already installed the custom vinyl windows before having received Building Permit or WHHDC COA approval. The WHHDC suggested replacing the newly installed vinyl windows done in a one/one design with a more period choice of wooden windows and in keeping with the original recently removed six/one layout. Such acceptable wooden window products are commonly available by special order.

Mr Macchio withdrew his vinyl window COA and will resubmit one per the above.

The WHHDC looks forward to the opportunity to review the two new fence and window COAs at the next earliest convenience in January in light of the positive exchange between owner and Commission.

2. Motion to accept “with changes” the West Hartford Historic District Commission Special Meeting Minutes of November 22, 2021 was made and seconded. The WHHDC voted unanimously to approve the November Meeting Minutes.

3. Commissioners’ Concerns and Comments-
 - * The WHHDC is continuing to look for a new Commissioner and Chair.
 - * The WHHDC will be holding it’s annual election of Officers at the next Special Meeting in January, namely: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary.
 - * Commissioners briefly discussed the need to engage Town Officials to be better proactive informants when owners submit renovations requiring Building Permit and West Hartford Historic District Commission consideration.
 - * The WHHDC wishes everyone a Happy Holidays and Seasons Greetings!

4. Public Comment-
None.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. All voted in favor, no objections, or abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitch Lewis