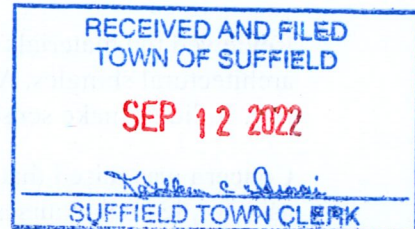


**Suffield Historic District Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting: July 11, 2022; 7:30 P.M.**  
**Town Hall Meeting Room 83 Mountain Rd.**

Chairman Doug Mayne called The Historic District Commission meeting to order at 7:30 pm on Monday July 11, 2022.

Attendees: Commissioner  
John Schwemmer  
Klaire Bielonko  
Beth Tracey  
Aysha Moore-Manwaring



Approval of Minutes: The approval of 6/6/2022 meeting minutes was tabled until the July HDC meeting to allow commissioners time to review.

Public Comment: Christian Quandt, Kathleen Bielonko.

There was discussion about adding Public Comment to both beginning and end of each Commission meeting as was done with the Library Commission. First Selectman Colin Moll confirmed this occurs at Board of Selectmen meetings.

Commissioner Bielonko made a motion to have Public Comment both at the beginning and the end of HDC meetings going forward starting today 7/11/2022

In Favor: Commissioners Bielonko & Tracey

Opposed - Commissioners Mayne, Schwemmer, & Moore-Manwaring

Discussion continued, another potential option is to have public comment after each application is reviewed.

Commissioner Moore-Manwaring made a motion to table the discussion to the July meeting.

In Favor: - Commissioners Mayne, Schwemmer, Moore-Manwaring, & Tracey

Abstained - Commissioner Bielonko

Applications for a Certificate of Appropriateness

a. 79 Stonegate Lane

General Review. Presentation by Joe Flynn of Rayco.

Reviewed the Certificate of Appropriateness and the plan and elevations of the house submitted to the Town.

CofA indicated incorrectly that the construction was not in the Historic District.

Applicant said this was an error and unfortunately was not picked up by the Town during

review because these properties were not yet entered on their list of addresses that are in the Historic District.

Commissioner Tracey noted that the line of the Historic District shown on the submitted plans is different than on the plans submitted to P&Z. Engineer (also present) stated the distance was inaccurately shown on those plans and it is actually closer to Main Street.

Reviewed the materials of the construction to include vinyl siding, Simonton windows, architectural shingles. Applicant said only the back corner of the house would be in the HD. It didn't make sense to have just the one face in wood.

Concern was raised that the elevations did not include items that this Commission usually asks for, ie., belt courses, corner boards, more significant trim around the windows, etc.

Commissioner Tracey stated that the location of the house seems to be different than what was shown and approved by P&Z, and that by relocating the position of the house on the site, the house is much more visible from North Main Street and now blocks the Eastern view from surrounding neighbors.

Attorney for the applicant noted that the approval received from the P&Z made no requirements regarding the placement of the house on the parcel or the roof height and visibility from N Main Street.

Commissioner Schemmer felt that given how far the structure was from the road, it will be hard to see many of these items. He discussed the massing of the structure and felt it appropriate for the HD.

Commission agreed that the structure will certainly not be confused with a historic structure.

Concern was raised that this may set a precedent for the future structure to be submitted at Lot 6, immediately to the North. Discussion regarding what, if any, changes could be made at this time to 79 Stonegate.

Given that the construction is complete, there is little that can be done.

Commissioner Moore-Manwaring made a motion to approve the application as submitted. All in Favor with the exception of Commissioner Bielonko who did not vote.

It was suggested that given that the HDC concerns noted at the P&Z review were not incorporated into the P&Z approval, maybe they could invite a member of the HDC to attend any meeting where they will be reviewing any application for a property in the HD.

b. 535 N Main Garage Demolition

Owner presented nothing in addition to their CofA. Owner didn't feel the structure was historic and its location was creating an unsafe exit for her leaving her driveway. It is in poor condition, and she feels it detracts from the larger barn behind it and that she doesn't have the funds to maintain it. Commission members asked questions regarding the age of

the structure (shows on 1925 aerials), plantings blocking the view, the possibility of using the driveway exit onto N Main instead, whether the structure is attached to the structure behind it and the material of the wall that would be exposed if the garage was removed. Ultimately, the Commission determined the structure is historic, and voted unanimously to deny the Application.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted

Scott MacClintic

*These minutes are not official until accepted at a subsequent meeting.*