

HARWINTON HISTORIC DISTRICT & HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013 – 7:00 PM

Present: Peter Brazaitis IV, Greg Marshall, Roger Plaskett, Carole Romano,
Absent: Joann Cyr, Bree Gurin., Orrie Simko
Also present: Greg Martinotti, First Selectman Mike Criss

Quorum established. Meeting opened at 7:06 pm by Chairman Carole Romano.
Minutes of July 16, 2013 were accepted as submitted.

PRE-HEARING

Greg Martinotti, 71 Harmony Hill Road, application #75 for Certificate of Appropriateness for construction of an attached 3-car garage. Architectural blueprints and photos were included in the application. Mr. Martinotti explained that the garage will be added on to an existing foundation. The existing foundation is present from when the house was originally built for the future garage. Vinyl siding and color will match the house. Same roofing materials. The garage will have a reverse gable, or ridgeline, different from the house. Plans include paving the driveway.

Mr. Martinotti asked if it would be OK to begin pouring a concrete floor in the existing foundation now. Roger Plaskett made a motion that because the floor would be poured inside the existing foundation wall and would not be visible from the road, Mr. Martinotti could go forward with work on the floor. All members were in favor. A public hearing will be held at the September 17, 2013 meeting. A legal ad will be placed in the Republican American newspaper and neighbors within 100 feet of property line will be notified.

BLIGHT UPDATE

Mike Criss gave an update on the Town's blight ordinance and the junk car ordinance. The Board of Selectman will work with the Commission in helping to resolve current issues.

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL

Mike Criss reported on the plans for the Veteran's Memorial on the South Road green. The new monument would pay homage to all Harwinton veterans, from the Revolutionary War to the present day conflicts. The memorial plaza would be handicap accessible and stay within the footprint of the existing green. There would be no fencing or barricades. The flower beds would be redesigned. A new flagpole would be erected that would be higher than the existing one, similar in height to the flagpole on the ball fields. Power lines may be relocated. Parking would be on South Road and a crosswalk painted on the road from Community Hall to the green. The present veteran's memorial would be moved to the green space on Bentley Drive, between the town hall and library. The monument would be granite, of a gray or earth tone color to look as if it had been there for many years. The project would cost between \$75,000 and \$85,000.

Final design should be completed by mid-October with work beginning in the spring of 2014. Roger Plaskett stated that because the Center green area was once used for multiple town functions since the town's incorporation in 1737, including military troop drills during the time of the Revolutionary War, it's possible that some historic artifacts might be unearthed during the excavation of the green. He suggested that the memorial group contact the state archaeologist (Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni) before any excavation is performed.

Mike noted that there would be a referendum and public hearing for the project. A public hearing would also be mandated by the Historic District Commission for a Certificate of Appropriateness. Roger Plaskett suggested combining the HDC public hearing with the memorial group's hearing to save time and expense.

Carole Romano asked Mike about the Community Hall and if any work is being planned there. He said the grant money for the community hall was shifted to the new ambulance facility and that the Town would apply for a new STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant for facade work on the front of the building. Mike added that an air purification system has been put in place, and some lighting and ceiling work has been done. Also some waterproofing.

HARWINTON HISTORIC DISTRICT & HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013 – PAGE 2

With no further questions or discussion, the Commission thanked Mike for attending the meeting.

HISTORIC DISTRICT OUTREACH PROJECT – Tabled

WEBSITE – Roger reported 889 hits this month on his website harwintonhistory.com.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commission clerk Joann Hohensee submitted a voucher for 4 hours for July & August. Carole Romano submitted a voucher for payment for a certified letter sent to a district homeowner.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 7:00 pm. Tentative agenda will include a public hearing for Greg Martinotti, 71 Harmony Hill Road, for a 3-car garage.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Hohensee, Clerk
Historic District &
Historic Properties Commission

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 8-28-13 AT 8:30AM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK