

TOWN OF RYE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Rye Town Hall

Commission Present: Chair Kaitlyn Coffey, Lydia Tilsley, Karen Stewart, David Choate, Stacey Smith, and Selectmen's Rep Bob McGrath

I. Call to Order

Chair Coffey called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. Seating of Alternates

None

III. 16 Old Parish Road Application

Amy Lynch, 16 Old Parish Road, met with the Commission to review the plans for the renovation of the home at 16 Old Parish Road. The project includes a new roof, and siding, in keeping with the neighborhood. The intent is to bring back the charm of the home with white shakes in the front and clapboards on the side. It was noted by Ms. Lynch that the exterior lighting has already been installed, in order to pass the electrical inspection, which was done in a traditional New England style. A new septic system has also been installed on the property. The final phase of the project will involve the cleanup of the yard and property, which will be done when all renovation work is done on the home.

Ms. Lynch spoke about the materials being used for the renovations. The siding in the front of the house will be hearty shingles in white. The side will be traditional clapboard. The proposed windows will be Anderson Windows with four over one grid. There will also be a new front door and an additional exterior door, which will be in keeping with the neighborhood. A pitch over the front door is proposed to help alleviate the icing on the stairs. There's also an additional pitch proposed on the front of the home to tie in the whole look of the house. Ms. Lynch spoke in regard to the idea of adding a pergola to the home.

The Commission reviewed the proposal and Ms. Lynch addressed their questions.

After review and discussion, the Commission agreed to support the application and to not send it to a public hearing.

**Motion by Lydia Tilsley, for the property located at 16 Old Parish Road, after reviewing the application and meeting with the applicant, the Commission approve the project; and as such, does not require a hearing because it is of no interest. Seconded by Karen Stewart. Vote: Karen Stewart – Aye; Lydia Tilsley – Aye; Kaitlyn Coffey – Aye; David Choate – Aye; Stacey Smith – Aye; Bob McGrath - Aye
All in favor**

IV. Work Session and Discussion

The Commission spoke with a homeowner of a historic home in the District who is planning upcoming renovations to the home. The intent of the discussion was to hear the plans and give guidance to the homeowner on how to proceed with bringing the project before the Historic District Commission. Renovations proposed by the homeowner includes, replacement of the windows; repairing wood rot and water damage from gutters; possible addition of a sunroom off the back of the home; and painting the home once all repairs are completed.

V. Other Business

There was some discussion about items that the Commission might want to consider putting into the ordinance and adding to the overall application process; such as, timing for noticing meetings, site visits, and deadlines for applications.

The Commission also discussed the installation of a fence on Parish Road. Chair Coffey feels that the Commission should follow up with the property owner, as they did not come before the HDC before installing the fence and the owners of 16 Parish have. The first step in the process is to fill out a complaint form with the Building Department. The Commission agreed to move forward with filing the form and going through the process.

It was suggested by Member Stewart that the Commission should discuss how to get real estate agents to communicate to their buyers when their house is in the Historic District. The Commission briefly discussed ways to notify buyers and get information to them about the regulations in the District. It was agreed to have further discussion about this idea at a future meeting.

Selectman McGrath noted that the Select Board will be reassigning representatives to the commissions and committees, as it is that time of year. He will probably not be the select board representative for the upcoming year; however, he has enjoyed being on the Commission and has learned a lot.

- **Next Meeting: April 10th, Rye Town Hall, 5:30 p.m.**

Adjournment

Motion by Lydia Tilsley to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. Seconded by Stacey Smith. All in favor.
Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F Ledger