

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING**

The Historic District Commission held a Special Meeting at 5:00 pm *via* Zoom Conferencing.

Present: Barbara Theurkauf, Chairman; Geoffrey Dellenbaugh, Secretary; Commissioners Jane Gordon Julien and Robyn Guimont; Alternates Brian Chiffer and John Langmaid; and Jonathan E. Mullen, AICP, Planner

Excused: Vice Chair Henry von Wodtke and Cara Keefe

Chairman Theurkauf called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

REGULAR MEETING

1. Acceptance of Minutes – August 17, 2020 Special Meeting

Commissioner Chiffer MOVED to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Langmaid SECONDED the motion. MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.

2. Review of Referral from the Town Council regarding expansion of the Main Street Local Historic District to Hubbard Street

Chairman Theurkauf stated that the Commission should solicit input from the homeowners affected by the expansion. Commissioner Langmaid said that after walking the area, he was surprised that the focus of the expansion was only on Hubbard Street and not Main Street south to Route 17. He noted a lack of historic buildings on Hubbard Street. Chairman Theurkauf reported that a historic district could encompass a wide variety of structures over a wide time period. She added that the Main Street district represents houses built in the 18th century to houses built as recently as 10 years ago that are considered to be historic. There was a discussion among the Commission about potentially historic houses on Main Street and the original historic district proposal from 1989.

Chairman Theurkauf stated the Commission faced a unique challenge with the district expansion proposal. Usually proposals to establish or expand a local historic district come from a group of interested homeowners. In this situation, Chairman Theurkauf continued, the Town Council is proposing the expansion.

The challenge for the Commission is to disseminate accurate information to the potentially affected homeowners about what is involved with being part of a historic district. Secretary Dellenbaugh suggested developing some standard talking points on a historic district. Chairman Theurkauf furthered the idea by suggesting that the Commission develop a standard letter with information and frequently asked questions to send to the potentially affected homeowners. Commissioner Langmaid added that the Commission should emphasize the positive aspects of living in a local historic district. There was a discussion among the members of the positive aspects of living in a local historic district.

A member of the public was in attendance and Chairman Theurkauf invited them to comment:

David Grady of 244 Buttonball Lane mentioned he was new to town and lived in the area of the proposed historic district expansion. He said that he was interested in the process.

3. Overview Available Resources

Chairman Theurkauf went over the available resources at the Commission's disposal including:

- The State Historic Preservation Officer, Mary Dunn
 - She offered to attend any information sessions that the Commission may hold.
 - She also sent over a list of towns that have recently approved historic districts.
- Preservation CT
- Circuit Riders
- Historical Society of Glastonbury

4. Define Next Steps

- **Define Boundary** – Members agreed that the boundary should encompass the properties on the north and south side of Hubbard Street east to New London Turnpike with Glastonbury High School carved out.
- **Establish Working Group** – Chairman Theurkauf recommended that the Commission wait to establish the working group until the process is farther along.

5. Other Business - None

Commissioner Dellenbaugh MOVED to ADJOURN the meeting. Commissioner Guimont SECONDED the motion. MOTION passed UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan E. Mullen

Jonathan E. Mullen, AICP
Planner