

1 Final Minutes - Canterbury Historic District Commission

2 April 20, 7 pm

3 Town Hall (Meeting House had ZBA hearing)

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5 Present:

6 Kevin Bragg (Chair): Jeff Leidinger: Anne Emerson: Harry Kinter: Kent
7 Ruesswick (BOS rep): Lois Scribner (secretary/alternate)

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9 Absent

10 Ginger Laplante

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12 Others present

13 Daimon and Erin Meeh (applicants)

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15 Agenda

16 1. Call to order

17 Kevin Bragg called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

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19 Kevin appointed Lois Scribner as alternate to vote in place of Ginger
20 Laplante this evening.

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22 2. Minutes February 16, 2022

23 Harry Kinter moved the minutes of February 16. Kevin seconded and all
24 voted in favor of approving those Minutes.

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26 3. Daimon Meeh, Agricultural Shed construction at 318 Shaker Road,
27 Shaker Village HD

28 Kevin explained the order of the hearing to allow for speakers in favor or
29 against the project. Daimon Meeh introduced to his application. He said
30 they were working on getting their farming going and the current barn
31 needed some work. Daimon showed a photocopy of the aerial view of the
32 property and spoke to the design. It will be a 3-bay shed – 2 bays for
33 tractors and 1 for firewood. It would be open at the front and built in a salt
34 box shape like the visitors center at Shaker Village. They would be using
35 the red pine salvaged from their property and Teresa Wyman's, with Ollie
36 Fifield doing the construction in a traditional style. They would need to
37 make a retaining wall and use the stones onsite, so it looked like a
38 fieldstone wall. The view of the new shed from the road would be limited
39 because the open side of the new construction would face south not
40 towards the road which is to the east.

There being no abutters present, board members were invited to ask questions. Harry asked about the roofing. This will match the existing barn as much as possible. Harry congratulated Daimon on the design of the house so far. Jeff had no questions. Kevin had been up to look around – he had seen that there was a real need for storage for machinery and firewood. The ground has already been disturbed. In the US Interior Department standards, it is suggested that what was historic and what is new were distinguished while maintaining the existing style. Daimon stated that their conservation easement requires they build in the Shaker style and that can include more than one option. Harry said his proposal was reminiscent of a Shaker shed. Kevin suggested using matching materials but showing a bit of difference between old and new would straddle both worlds. Kevin's sense from the road was that the house blocks most of the view anyway. Daimon said they don't want to do anything out of character. Kent asked about the kinds of posts being used given the high winds across the fields. Daimon is planning on securing posts with stones and straps.

Jeff moved to approve the application and Kevin seconded. All members approved the application. The secretary would get the Notice of Decision out very soon, Kevin would sign it and then it would be mailed to the Meehs. This will be the HDC signing off on the project for the relevant state department.

Daimon raised the issue of other projects they will inevitably undertake, starting with a fence post out in the front. He said it was expensive coming to the HDC for every single project with the abutter letters going mostly to friends and family. Kevin suggested it would be most efficient if he was to make a list of projects, a kind of 5-year plan, and bring them all to the HDC at once for conditional approvals and if necessary, extensions could be granted.

4. Ordinance Work

Kent was welcomed as BOS rep. He would be the liaison with the Select Board and as such he would be a voting member. Kevin asked how he saw his role in communicating with the BOS and PB. Kent was not sure how it was all going to work out but maybe HDC should come to BOS directly every so often? Kevin said the board has the power (under RSA 675:6) to amend their own HDC regulations, bring them forward first to the

BOS and then to a publicly noticed meeting and then vote on them. This had been the board's work this past year. It was all designed to make their operation in town more efficient for applicants, the board and the town office enforcement staff. Kent stated he had strong opinions in the past about the role of the HDC but wanted to work alongside the board and learn more about their work in town.

Jeff elaborated. He had put the drafts together in the last year. The focus was on the Regulations, not the Ordinance (Article 13) itself, which a required Town Meeting vote for any changes. For instance, they had rewritten the parts of the Regulations pertaining to Maintenance and Demolition to be more detailed in the future, as well as rewriting the Application form. The goal was to submit the whole package to the Board of Selectmen once it was complete. It was a 4-part package – the Ordinance, the Regulations, the Application and the Guidelines.

The last part the HDC was working on is the old Guidelines. At the meeting in February members had stopped in the middle of the Architectural Features section. Kevin reiterated that it was not just about protecting buildings but about the aesthetic and character of a small rural New England town. Jeff agreed to send the most recent version of the Guidelines work, with highlights to show changes, to Lois to forward on to members. He would drop off a hard copy to Anne. **Homework for the May 18 meeting would be to read through and think about changes/improvements to these Guidelines.**

5. New business

Harry said now his property was within the Center Historic District, he wanted to know if painting the north façade in the summer was something the HDC needed to comment on. The answer was no – not for painting.

6. Adjournment

Jeff made a motion to adjourn, and all were in favor. It was about 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Scribner, secretary to HDC.

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