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5-20-20

Approved as corrected

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING
ANDOVER TOWN OFFICES, 36 BARTLET STREET
ANDOVER, MA 01810

<http://www.andoverma.gov/cdp>

**BALLARDVALE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES ~~DRAFT~~**

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Second Floor Conference Room, Andover Town Offices

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Joanna Reck, at 7:07 PM

Present: Joanna Reck, Diane Derby, Gary Rowe, Remi Machet, Matt Pimentel, Sara Nigrelli

Absent: Ron Abraham

Applications:

139 Andover Street (BH20-4) – Amy Whitsett – Fence

Fence in rear will be picket and connected to house and outbuilding. Rear gates will be flat at the top. Front fence will be open split rail. Both fences will be same height. Both fences will be 4'-0" tall. May use both type of fence in the rear.

Motion: Move that application BH20-4 does fall under the BVHDC purview (Machet/Pimentel 6-0)

Motion: Move that application BH20-4 can have a public hearing waived for a public meeting. (Machet/Pimentel 6-0).

Public Meetings: None

Public Hearings:

6 Clark Road (BH20-2) – Sarah Nigrelli – Replace front steps, porch columns, replace roofing

Sarah recuses herself from this application.

Applicant found composite columns to match the existing. Railing is being removed.

Motion: Move that application BH20-2 does fall under the BVHDC purview
(Machet/Pimentel 6-0)

Motion: I move to open the public hearing for application BH20-2 (Machet/Pimentel 6-0)

Motion: I move to close the public hearing for application BH20-2 (Machet/Pimentel 6-0)

Motion: I move that the BallardVale Historic District Commission finds that the proposal of application BH20-2 is consistent with the requirements of the BVHDC by-law and regulation of said Commission and in keeping with the historic character of the neighborhood and that, therefore, a COA shall issue. (Machet/Pimentel 6-0)

14 Chester Street (BH20-3) – Janice + Seth Holden – Replace siding, windows, rebuild porches, remove bay window

Ch, Joanna Reck needed to leave for remainder of meeting, so the rest of the meeting was run by V. Ch., Diane Derby

Motion: Recess BVHDC and convene a Public Hearing. (Machet/Pimental, 5-0)

This is a first meeting on this application. Applicant, Seth Holden hopes to have a decision tonight. Several questions were asked of the applicant. Porch railings will be 36" tall to meet building code requirements. New windows to be 1 over 1 to match existing new windows.

Motion: Close Public Hearing and resume BVHDC Meeting. (Machet/Pimental, 5-0)

Motion: I move that application BH20-3 does fall under the BVHDC Purview.
(Machet/Pimental, 5-0)

Motion: Motion: I move that the BallardVale Historic District Commission finds that the proposal of application BH-20-3 is consistent with the requirements of the BVHDC by-law and regulation of said Commission and in keeping with the historic character of the neighborhood and that, therefore, a COA shall issue. (Machet/Pimentel, 5-0).

No Liaison was appointed.

Citizen's "Speak Time": None

Communications, Reports and other Commission Business:

Updates & discussion – Violations

The violation letter (Draft#4) was distributed and all members were asked to email Diane with their reaction (positive or with additional suggestions for change)

Two additional possible violations were mentioned:

1. The addition to 10 Chester St. Diane mentioned that we had approved an addition, but will check it out and let everyone know if what they are doing is what we had approved.
2. Another house at 18 Chester St that now has solar panels on the roof.

This latter violation highlights the on-going problem of having a permit approved by another department or board (with no notification of or apparent knowledge that approval may first needed from the BVHDC). We have worked with the Building Dept on this issue and seem to have resolved it, but the same is not true of most other departments or boards.

Other Business – Vinyl Fences (Samples-Matt)

There was continued discussion about revision to fencing guidelines. There was general agreement that cedar or other wood fences are problematic from a longevity standpoint. And any kind of fencing is expensive.

Samples from Walpole/Azek fencing were passed around. Comments included....

- No wood grain is apparent in the composite
- Walpole/Azek fencing is painted by Sherwin Williams in standard colors with a 25-year warranty
- There is no warranty from Walpole on any of their fencing.
- How do we clearly differentiate (in our Guidelines) what is called composite (with a dull finish) from the shiny vinyl fencing that we don't approve?
- We could give examples of what we have approved (174-176 Andover St, 139 Andover St, and 14 Chester St).

Matt clarified that Perfection Fencing is not connected to Walpole but their composite fencing is similar to Walpole/Azek.

At the end of the meeting, there was a question and answer period with our new potential member, Michael Silverman.

Applicant Amy Whitsett may be interested in joining the Commission later, but in the meantime has offered to assist in writing an article for the Gazette about fencing. Diane will connect Amy with Karen English, our Gazette Editor.

Motion to adjourn the meeting (Machet/Pimental, 5-0) at 9:23pm.

