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Historic District Commission

William A. Manganiello, Chair
Barbara Mullen, Vice Chair
Robert D. Dickerman
Charles Thayer
Michele Monteiro
Joseph Norte
Steve Rogers

Colleen Ellis, Secretary

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15 Summer Street
Taunton, Massachusetts 02780

MINUTES – JUNE 24, 2021

An informal meeting of the Historic District Commission was held on Thursday, June 24, 2021. Present were William A. Manganiello, Joseph Norte, Steve Rogers and Robert Dickerman.

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

New Business/New Matters

11 Ashland Street – The owner of 11 Ashland Street, Wilmary Tejeda is requesting approval to put a white vinyl fence around her property. The fence will be 6 feet tall and there will be a gate at the front of the property. Commissioner Rogers said having a 6 foot fence at the front of the property will not look good. The Commission has never allowed a fence to be a solid barrier in the front of a property. Suggested was to have a 3 foot fence in the front and for about 20-30 feet on both sides then go to the 6 foot fencing. The Commission would like the front fencing to be no higher than 36 inches as well as along the sides, have the same height fence 20-30 feet back. The Commission will require a rendition of the front and the side, showing the style of the fence. It was also noted that the roof needs to be repaired around the cupola. Ms. Tejeda said the roof is only 7 years old, but there is rotting wood around the cupola. The Commission requested that when the roof is repaired to preserve the house, that the cupola be repaired or replaced. It was noted that it does not have to be the same one so Ms. Tejeda will provide plans for the replacement of the cupola.
Commissioner Rogers made a motion for Ms. Tejeda to submit a rendition of the picket style fence for the front and for approximately 25 feet along the sides and ramp up into the solid 6 foot fence along the back sides, left and right and in the rear. Commissioner Norte seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

Commissioner Norte made a motion that the cupola can be removed to repair the roof, but another cupola is to be put back or repair the one that is there and put it back. A rendition of what is proposed to be put back is to be provided to the Commission. Commissioner Rogers second the motion. Unanimously passed.

General Administrative Matters

Commissioner Manganiello informed the Commission that the Council Committee on Public Property was asked to discuss the potential sale of 4 North Walker Street. This building was built in 1849 and was used as a school house. It is the only surviving one. It was also used as a fire house, grange hall, garden club and Lions club. It is a historic property and the Commission would like to have it preserved. A deed restriction can be placed on the property stating that it has to be restored. The person interested would be interested in restoring the building. The Commission's jurisdiction is over the preservation. The Historic District Commission would need to vote to have the Council put in the deed restriction.

The Railroad Depot on Arlington Street – The Building Department has taken enforcement steps on the depot. The junk cars have been removed and the next step is to restore the building and remove the tarps, so they may be coming before the Commission for a partial demo permit.

The Longmeadow Nursing Home building – They contacted Commissioner Manganiello and asked if they could demo the rear portion as it is not historic. The Commission does want the building appropriately secured and restored. A public meeting to discuss what they intend to do then a hearing with a definitive plan will be required. This Commission does have jurisdiction over this building that they want to demolish. The Commission can elect to allow that demolition and could require mitigation which could be the restoration of the rest of the building.

44 Dean Street – Mr. Amaral may not be able to build the retail building on the property.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Dickerman, seconded by Commissioner Rogers and unanimously passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Colleen Ellis
Secretary to the Commission