

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Calhoun-Ives, Sunny Ridge and Washington Green Historic Districts

Minutes – November 21, 2022

Members Present: Mr. Hollinger, Ms. Averill, Ms. Woodroffe, Ms. Mills
Members Absent: Ms. Boyer
Alternates Present: Mr. Rimsky, Mr. Fairbairn, Mr. Ferreira
Clerk: Mr. Buell
Others: Mr. McTigue

The Chair called the public hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. and seated Mr. Hollinger, Ms. Averill, Ms. Woodroffe, Ms. Mills, Mr. Rimsky, Mr. Fairbairn, and Mr. Ferreira

Public Hearing

Public Hearing 157 Calhoun Street

Mr. Hollinger asked that the clerk read the notice which was published in the newspaper regarding the Certificate of Appropriateness application to construct a 29.5' x 51.92' accessory building at 157 Calhoun Street. Mr. McTigue who represented the project then shared his screen with the Commission and provided a detailed overview of the proposal.

Following Mr. McTigue's presentation, Mr. Hollinger indicated that he had several questions about the proposal. He stated that he understood the inclusion of a standing seam metal roof, and asked why the applicant had proposed standing seam metal siding for the building. Mr. Hollinger indicated that the structure appeared to be out of character for the neighborhood. He went on to explain that he had conducted a site walk of the property and understood that the applicant had been limited in locations for this structure, but that he had reservations regarding its design.

Mr. McTigue stated that the design of the proposed structure was similar to the recently approved guest house on the property. Mr. Buell clarified that the Historic District Commission did not issue a Certificate

of Appropriates for the guest house because the guest house was not visible from the road due to its location on the property. Following a brief discussion, Mr. McTigue explained how the structure would be screened from the road.

Ms. Averill indicated that she had also attended the site visit for the proposal and voiced concern over its location. Mr. Rimsky expressed agreement with Mr. Hollinger's concerns regarding the style of the building. He indicated that he felt the building should have been styled as an agricultural building. He stated that he felt the proposal did not fit into the neighborhood. Discussion regarding the style of the neighborhood and the design of the proposal ensued. Mr. Hollinger suggested emulating a barn with the proposal. Mr. McTigue indicated that the proposed gambrel roof matched the style of the area, and Mr. Hollinger expressed disagreement. He indicated that he felt the proposed structure does not have a gambrel roof and explained the definition of a gambrel roof. Mr. Fairbairn expressed agreement with the Commission's previous comments.

Mr. Hollinger proposed continuing the public hearing and to request that the applicant return with revised plans. Mr. McTigue requested clarification on what the Commission disliked about the proposal. Mr. Hollinger stated that the exposed concrete siding and standing seam metal walls were elements which the Commission did not approve of, and suggested putting field stone over the concrete siding. He then suggested changing the standing seam metal siding to appear "warmer". Discussion ensued and a motion was passed to continue the public hearing until the December meeting.

Motion: To continue the public hearing for 157 Calhoun Street at 7:24 p.m. by Ms. Averill, seconded by Ms. Mills. Passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

Seating of Members and Alternates

The Chair called the regular meeting to order at 7:24 p.m. and seated Mr. Hollinger, Ms. Averill, Ms. Woodrooffe, Ms. Mills, and Mr. Ferreira (for Ms. Boyer).

Consideration of Certificate of Appropriateness Application for 157 Calhoun Street

Mr. Hollinger indicated that because the public hearing for 157 Calhoun Street had been continued, the Commission would not conduct further discussion of the proposal.

Consideration of Minutes for the September 19, 2022 Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes for the September 19, 2022 meeting by Ms. Averill,
seconded by Ms. Woodrooffe. Passed 5-0.

Report on Formation of The Historical Review Committee

Mr. Rimsky was asked to provide the Commission with an update on the new Delay of Demolition Review Committee. Mr. Rimsky stated that a database of buildings which are 75 years old (or older) will be made available on the town website in the future. He went on to explain that a more detailed database was under development, and that this information would only be made available to the public when specifically requested.

Mr. Rimsky indicated that he and the new Building Official, Mr. Bowman, had connected and were working to implement the Delay of Demolition ordinance into the Building Department's application process.

Following this, Mr. Rimsky explained to the Commission that the Delay of Demolition Review Committee does not presently have a dedicated section on the town's website to post minutes, agendas, or notices. He indicated that much of this had been done under the Historic District Commission's section of the website, and expressed frustration regarding the functionality of the website. Mr. Rimsky stated that at the upcoming Delay of Demolition Review Committee meeting, he would suggest that a formal request

be made to create a section on the town's website for the Delay of Demolition Review Committee.

Discussion ensued. Following this discussion, Mr. Buell offered to speak with town employees who are involved in the maintenance of the website to rectify this. Mr. Hollinger then indicated that he would also reach out to the town to request that a new section of the website be created for this Committee.

New/Other Business

No new or other business was discussed by the Commission.

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Buell

Dennis Buell

Town of Washington

Historic District Commission Clerk

11-23-2022

A link to access a recording of this meeting is below.

https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/dbuell_washingtonct_org/EngxdHSw5-FIj-B8sRk_wf0BhxGmolfPU2Td40Gbp5FdNg?e=Dbt4V8