

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

**Minutes – August 15, 2022**

**Members Present:** Mr. Hollinger, Ms. Averill, Ms. Mills  
**Members Absent:** Ms. Boyer, Ms. Woodroofe  
**Alternates Present:** Mr. Rimsky, Mr. Fairbairn  
**Alternates Absent:** Mr. Ferreira  
**Clerk:** Mr. Buell  
**Others:** Ms. Demiraj

**Public Hearing**

The Chair called the public hearing to order at 6:59 p.m. and seated Mr. Hollinger, Ms. Mills, Ms. Averill, Mr. Rimsky (for Ms. Boyer), and Mr. Fairbairn (for Ms. Woodroofe.)

**Public Hearing 75 Green Hill Road**

Mr. Hollinger requested that Mr. Buell read the notice which was published in the paper regarding the Certificate of Appropriateness (C.O.A.) application for 75 Green Hill Road to permit the previously unpermitted pillars. Following this, Mr. Hollinger requested that Ms. Demiraj explain the project to the Commission.

Following this explanation, Mr. Hollinger asked if the builder had read the previously granted C.O.A. which did not include the pillars. A short discussion ensued. Mr. Rimsky asked if the applicant had considered connecting the stand-alone pillar to the existing wall. Ms. Demiraj explained that this had been their initial intent but that they could not find stone which would match the existing wall. Mr. Rimsky indicated that he felt the Commission should consider connecting the stand-alone pillar to a wall to add continuity.

Mr. Hollinger questioned the necessity for pillars and stated that a lower abutment to the previously approved wall would have been more in line with what had previously been approved. Ms. Demiraj stated that without the pillar she had felt that the wall had no beginning or end. Mr. Hollinger indicated that it could have been squared at the same height, and Ms. Averill expressed agreement with this sentiment. A short discussion ensued. The Commission agreed that the stand-alone pillar would be more appropriate if it were modified to add continuity to the structure, and considered an appropriate height for both pillars.

Motion: To close the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. by Mr. Rimsky, seconded by Ms. Averill. Passed 5-0.

### **Regular Meeting**

The Chair called the regular meeting to order at 7:11 seated Mr. Hollinger, Ms. Mills, Ms. Averill, Mr. Rimsky (for Ms. Boyer), and Mr. Fairbairn (for Ms. Woodroofe.)

### **Consideration of Certificate of Appropriateness Application for 75 Green Hill Road**

Mr. Hollinger asked to hear the Commission's opinion of the proposal for 75 Green Hill Road, indicated that he felt the stand-alone pillar should be removed in its entirety, and stated that the pillar attached to the wall should be reduced to a height of 2 inches over the height of the stone wall.

Mr. Rimsky indicated that he believed that the stand-alone pillar needed continuity and that the nearby wall should be connected to the new pillar. Ms. Mills expressed agreement.

Mr. Fairbairn stated that he agreed with Mr. Rimsky's sentiment. He went on to explain that the pillars would help to identify the driveway. Ms. Averill stated that she felt the pillars should be lowered closer to the previously approved height of 18 inches. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Hollinger proposed a motion which stipulated that both pillars be dropped to a height of 30 inches, and that the stand-alone pillar be attached to a wall which would go back into the property which would be 6 feet long and not to exceed 18 inches in height. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Rimsky suggested allowing the applicant to extend the wall further than 6 feet if needed. Following additional discussion, the following motion was passed.

Motion: To require the applicant to lower the two pillars to 30" in height, and that the stand-alone pillar be attached to a wall which will be a maximum of 8' in length going back into the property, and not to exceed 18" in height. By Mr. Fairbairn, seconded by Ms. Mills. Passed 3-1 with one abstention.

### **Consideration of Minutes for the July 18, 2022 Meeting**

Motion: To approve the July 18, 2022 minutes as written. Put forth by Ms. Averill. Seconded by Mr. Rimsky. Passed 5-0.

### **A.R.P.A. Grant Information**

Mr. Hollinger stated that A.R.P.A. grant funds are available for town commissions to apply for, and suggested applying for funding to assist in the creation of an inventory of older homes within the town.

Mr. Hollinger went on to explain that this inventory would directly relate to the new Delay of Demolition Ordinance.

He stated that the Historic District Commission could apply for this funding directly, or that they could recommend to the Historic Review Committee that they apply for this funding. The Commission agreed that the development of this inventory is the purview of the Historic Review Committee and that the application for this funding should be applied for by them.

Mr. Rimsky informed the Commission that work to establish the Historic Review Committee was ongoing, and the first meeting would potentially occur on August 25, 2022. Discussion ensued.

#### **Delay of Demolition.**

Mr. Hollinger asked Ms. Fairbairn if the Delay of Demolition Ordinance would officially be in effect on August 25, 2022 if the Historic Review Committee were to meet on that day. Mr. Fairbairn stated that once the members of the Committee had been appointed by the Board of Selectmen, and once a Chair had been elected by this Committee, the ordinance would be in effect.

Mr. Hollinger indicated that he felt the town should publicize the establishment of this Committee. Discussion ensued.

#### **New/Other Business**

Mr. Buell informed the Commission that at their next meeting they would review an application for 81 Green Hill Road to consider the presently unpermitted ramp which had been constructed. No further discussion on this matter was conducted.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. by Ms. Mills, seconded by Ms. Averill. Passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dennis Buell*

Dennis Buell

Town of Washington

Historic District Commission Clerk

8-18-202

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

[https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/dbuell\\_washingtonct\\_org/ErX5jm1xhSpMiuooHDjEJcIBd-flLxNRIjOmbXSxnXqcZQ?e=Fcbuvq](https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/dbuell_washingtonct_org/ErX5jm1xhSpMiuooHDjEJcIBd-flLxNRIjOmbXSxnXqcZQ?e=Fcbuvq)