

ALGONQUIN HISTORIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2012
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER – ESTABLISH QUORUM:

PRESENT: Chairman Jolitz, Members: Purn, Mudra, Zange, Nee, Koepfel

**APPROVE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 8 AND
WORKSHOP MINUTES OF AUGUST 18 AND 25, 2012:**

Motion made by Member Zange to approve above Minutes. Motion seconded by
Member Mudra.

Voice Vote: All Ayes

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR CONSIDERATION OF A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT
IN THE OLD TOWN DISTRICT CASE NO. PC12-07 – 303 LAFOX RIVER DRIVE
FOR RE-SIDING AND REPLACEMENT OF GARAGE DOOR.**

PETITIONER: MIKE CLARK

PRESENT: Chairman Jolitz. Members: Purn, Mudra, Zange, Nee, Koepfel

Village Staff: Ben Mason

Mr. Mason informed the Commission that Petitioner is proposing to remove the worn original 4” wide clapboard on the home and also refurbish the garage including new siding. Currently the garage has 3” siding and the home 4” siding. The Petitioner proposes to re-side both the home and garage with new triple 3” siding. The house was built in 1896 as a four square vernacular. A 4-6” siding profile is more appropriate and historically accurate for this 1896 home.

Staff encourages Petitioner to install 4” siding on the garage as well – however staff would support 3” siding on the garage, since that is what is existing and it is a later addition to the property.

The proposed improvements also include the replacement of the overhead garage door. The garage currently has a sliding door and in general an overhead door in the appearance of either a sliding door or carriage style would be compatible.

Staff recommends approval of a COA with the following conditions:

The Petitioner shall obtain a building permit and comply with all applicable Building Code requirements.

Consistent with the 1896 year of construction and the architectural design of the house, the replacement siding shall be in double 4” style and the Petitioner is encouraged to install 4” siding on the garage as well to match the home; however, staff would support 3” siding on the garage since that is what is existing and what it was constructed with, since it was a later addition to the property and any overhead door that would have the appearance of a sliding door or a carriage house style or hinged door would be compatible with the property.

Chairman Jolitz asked the Petitioner what were his intentions regarding how he was going to address the 6" wide corner boards and the 10"-12" frieze board under the eaves in his siding project since it was not mentioned in his project submittal. Petitioner stated he intended to retain the look of the wide corner and frieze boards and just paint them or clad with aluminum or vinyl and retain the size.

The topic then changed to focus on the garage structure. All Commission members agreed with staff recommendations and any of the sample pictures the Petitioner submitted of several options for a replacement garage door that resembles or gives the appearance of a set of hinged swing type door would be appropriate. It was stated that the garage was built about 1915 – 20 years after the home and that is why it was built with 3" wide clapboard because it was the size being used at the time it was built.

Member Mudra pointed out that the Code states that..."new construction, alterations or repairs in the Old Town District shall be designed and constructed with essentially the same exterior appearance as was the previous and/or original structure that was located on the same premises" and he felt the word "essentially" in the Code might allow the use of the 3" wide clapboard.

Member Mudra moved to recommend to the Building Commissioner that a COA should be issued for the replacement of the garage door and re-siding of the home in a 3" siding consistent with the Petitioner's submittal for case No. PC12-07. Chairman Jolitz called for a second to the motion by Member Mudra. There was no second offered and the motion died.

A question was asked as to the historic significance" of this home. It was stated that this was the home lived in by a local businessman and entrepreneur Dorr Thomas, owner of the meat market, grist mill, village trustee, school board member, etc. prior to his construction and moving into a new home in 1909 at 3 Washington St. It was 1 of 3 homes built exactly alike in 1896. This house is in the most original condition.

Member Zange asked the Petitioner why he had purchased siding materials prior to the Hearing on this project. Petitioner stated he purchased this siding from a contractor friend who had it left over from a previous construction and sold it to him for a very reasonable price.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Interview Project – Status Report:

Interviewee Ruth Larson Zimmick called to cancel her interview for Sept.

B. Participation In Fall Harvest Day in October:

The Commission will participate in this event by setting up a booth and displays.

In Cornish Park. The Commission will have a Walking Tour starting at approx 10 a.m. It will be decided later as to how many tours will be launched.

APPROVE BILLS FOR PAYMENT:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Fall Meeting of McHenry County Joint Counsel of Historic Groups
September 26, 2012:

This meeting will be held at the Fish Hatchery in Spring Grove.

B. Mr Mason announced there will a meeting Oct 11th in the Village Board Room at 7 p.m. for the Planning & Zoning commission, Historic Commission, ECD for an update meeting on village Downtown Planning Study – The Steering Committee will Meet tomorrow evening.

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS OR OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairman Jolitz received a glowing thank you note from the Simonini family who were here researching the family.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Member Nee to adjourn. Motion seconded by Member Mudra.

Voice Vote: All Ayes

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

 10-10-12
Secretary Date Approved