

**HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
APRIL 6, 2016**

Town of Bedford
Bedford Town Hall
Selectmen's Meeting Room

PRESENT: William Moonan, Chair; Alan Long, Vice Chair; Lorrie Dunham

ABSENT: Karen Kalil-Brown, Clerk; Chris Weisz; Sal Canciello

Mr. Moonan introduced himself and read the emergency evacuation notice.

PRESENTATION: Ms. Dunham read the notice of the hearing.

PETITION #009-16 – CONTINUATION – Evner Natareno, 31 Great Road, for addition to existing house.

Mr. Moonan explained that there were only three voting members present tonight, and one of them had previously recused himself for this application because he was a direct abutter. He asked Mr. Long whether he felt comfortable voting. Mr. Long said that he felt he could be impartial, and had no problem voting on this application so long as it was not a problem with the applicants. Mr. Moonan stated that, even with Mr. Long voting, there would still only be a three-member quorum; he said that, if the applicants wished to proceed, it would be with the understanding that any vote would need to be unanimous.

Mr. Natareno greeted the Commission and stated that they had gotten approval at the last meeting for the concept and architecture for the addition at 31 Great Road, and tonight they were seeking approval for windows and roof shingles.

Windows

The Commission talked in detail about the style of the windows. Mr. Moonan asked whether the windows were wood or aluminum. Mr. Natareno replied that they were wood windows but were aluminum-clad. There was discussion about whether aluminum-clad windows should be accepted. Mr. Long said that he had always felt that the Commission should take advantage of modern materials, provided that there was no aesthetic difference. Ms. Dunham agreed.

Mr. Moonan opened the hearing to the public.

Kevin Latady, a former HDC member who planned to return to the Commission in the next month, said that his recollection was that the HDC had always approved aluminum-clad windows for new construction, but not necessarily on an existing historic home.

MOTION:

Mr. Long moved to approve Harvey Majesty wood, aluminum-clad windows for the new addition at 31 Great Road, as shown on Exhibit A. Windows will have 5 over 8 muntins with simulated divided light, interior and exterior. Windows will be white.

Ms. Dunham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Moonan, Long, and Dunham

Voting against: None

Abstained: None

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0-0.

Roof Shingles

Mr. Natareno stated that they were also proposing to re-shingle the house and addition with three-tab architectural shingles, slate in color. He showed a sample of the shingle for the Commission's review.

MOTION:

Ms. Dunham moved to approve Timberline architectural shingles, slate in color, for 31 Great Road.

Mr. Long seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Moonan, Long, and Dunham

Voting against: None

Abstained: None

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0-0.

Mr. Natareno thanked the Commission members for their time.

PRESENTATION: Mr. Long read the notice of the hearing.

PETITION #010-16 – First Parish Church, 75 Great Road, for solar panels.

Karl Winkler greeted the Commission and explained that he was part of the Energy Conservancy Taskforce for the Church. He said that they had put forth a comprehensive plan to modernize the building and make it more “green” while still keeping the historic and architectural integrity of the structure. He noted that they had added storm windows, built a new elevator, and added insulation. Mr. Winkler said that, in the interest of continuing with this plan, their next proposal involved solar panels.

Mr. Winkler stated that the Board members had been given a printout of a PowerPoint presentation prepared by this taskforce for the solar panels. The Commission talked with Mr. Winkler about the details of the handout, discussing the aesthetics of the solar panels and their specific placement on the building; he noted that there would be no visual difference from the Bedford Common. Mr. Winkler showed a sample of the panel to the Board members for visual reference.

There was further conversation about the panels and how they would be attached to the building, and on which specific sections.

Mr. Moonan opened the hearing to the public.

Kevin Latady, of 2 Myers Lane, stated that he used to be on the HDC and hoped to join again in the next month. He said that he was concerned about the notion of solar panels on this iconic historic structure in Bedford Center. Mr. Winkler stressed that the Church worked very hard to place the panels on sections that would only be visible from specific parts of Great Road.

Mr. Moonan said that he had hoped that more of the Commission would be present tonight, as he felt uncomfortable voting on such an important topic with only half the members present. He said he also wanted to do more research into what other communities had allowed for solar panels in Historic Districts, and to reach out to the Mass Historic members and listserv for some extra guidance. He said that, with all this in mind, he thought it might be best to continue the hearing to the next month, and said he hoped it was not a great inconvenience to the Church. Mr. Winkler said that he fully understood where Mr. Moonan was coming from, and although time always mattered, he had no problem with continuing to the May meeting date.

MOTION:

Mr. Long moved to continue First Parish Church, 75 Great Road, for solar panels, to Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 7:30 PM.

Ms. Dunham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Moonan, Long, and Dunham

Voting against: None

Abstained: None

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0-0.

Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Moonan called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION:

Mr. Long moved to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Dunham seconded the motion.

Voting in favor: Moonan, Long, and Dunham

Voting against: None

Abstained: None

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

William Moonan, Chair

Date

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Gould
HDC Assistant