

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
HISTORIC COMMITTEE #1
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: Stuart Sachs, Chair; Guy Horvath, Gail Stephen

STAFF: Dennis Buckley, Zoning Official

OTHERS: Mr. Kenneth Martin, Habitat for Humanity; Keith Cook, Habitat volunteer

CALL TO ORDER.

Commissioner Sachs called the meeting to order at 6: 04 p.m. A quorum was present. Commissioner Sachs reviewed the rules for the hearing with those present.

PUBLIC HEARING.

1. **Certificate of Appropriateness:** Application #2015 – 02 by Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County, for a Certificate of Appropriateness for new construction of a two-story single family home at 84 Maple Street in the Washington Park Historic District.

Mr. Kenneth Martin, the Habitat for Humanity Director of Construction, and Keith Cook, another former volunteer came forward to present the application. Mr. Martin explained that the lot was currently vacant. He then reminded the Commissioners of other work Habitat had done in Bridgeport, including work on Kossuth Street, which was also in the historic district. Mr. Martin said that the group would be willing to build the house in the same style as the existing ones.

Commissioner Sachs said that he regularly checks the lighting fixtures. He asked if there would be lighting other than a porch light. Mr. Martin said that he believed that there was a motion activated light on the side of the proposed residence as well. Mr. Martin indicated where the electrical plan was. He added that that normally the homeowner is given the opportunity to chose the exterior lighting fixtures, but since this is a historical district, Habitat could just select the appropriate fixtures instead. Commissioner Sachs said that in the past, there had been some fixtures installed elsewhere that had caused issues.

Commissioner Horvath said that he had reviewed the front porch and noticed that there were three columns. He said that the center column often draws the eye right to it. He said that it would be helpful to have symmetry. A brief discussion followed about the plans and the placement of the columns.

Commissioner Horvath pointed out that the plans did not indicate where the water table was. Mr. Martin asked if the Commission wished to have a water table added to all four sides. Commissioner Horvath said that the Commission only has jurisdiction on three sides. Mr. Martin said that a water table could be added to the building.

The discussion moved to some of the window detail on the plans. Mr. Cook pointed out that Habitat does not traditionally trim out windows. However, this has been done in the historical district because the Commission had requested the additional trim and the returns and other details five or six years ago. He reminded everyone that Habitat's mission was to provide affordable housing. Commissioner Horvath pointed out that the Commission was not asking for historic materials such as wood sashes but were requesting details that would give the appearance of appropriate detail. Mr. Cook explained that the detail had been added to comply with the historic district. It was pointed out that there were PVC sills made for this type of window trim. Discussion followed about the details of the plan.

Commissioner Stephen asked if they were intending to fence in the property. Mr. Martin said that they would be fencing it in. In the past, Habitat has used the black coated chain link fencing in the historic district. It was noted that in the past, Habitat had been asked to use vinyl fencing, but now the request was for the black coated chain link.

Commissioner Sachs noted that there was no one present to speak in opposition to the application. He then closed the public hearing portion on 84 Maple Street.

NEW BUSINESS.

Application #2015 – 02 – 84 Maple Street.

**** COMMISSIONER HORVATH MOVED TO APPROVE APPLICATION #2015-02 SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:**

- 1. EXTERIOR LIGHTS VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY SHALL BE DIRECTED INWARD AND DOWN SO AS TO NOT TRESPASS FROM THE PROPERTY;**
 - 1A. THE FRONT PORCH LIGHT (LANTERN STYLE) SHALL HAVE FROSTED GLASS;**
- 2. FRONT WALK TO ALIGN WITH FRONT DOOR;**
- 3. PORCH BALUSTERS SHALL BE CYLINDRICAL;**

4. **PROVIDE A WATER TABLE (SKIRT BOARD) TO MATCH THE EXISTING PORCH BOARD;**

5. **CELLULAR PVC WINDOW SILL MAY BE ADDED TO WINDOWS SEEN FROM STREET. THE THICKNESS AND LENGTH SHALL MATCH THE EXISTING WINDOW SILLS.**

**** COMMISSIONER STEPHEN SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

OLD BUSINESS.

Minutes of June 3, 2014, July 1, 2014, September 2014, January 2015.

There was no action taken on the minutes at this time.

ADJOURNMENT.

**** COMMISSIONER HORVATH MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COMMISSIONER STEPHEN SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services