

Town of Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of November 20, 2023

The Town of Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission held a Zoom meeting on Monday, November 20, beginning at 3:00 PM. Present from the Commission were Chairman Carl Sprague, Jorja Marsden, Chantal Rhind, Pam Sandler and Secretary Peter Williams. The meeting's agenda, date, time and place were duly posted by the Town Clerk on the Town website at least two business days in advance of the meeting. Chairman Sprague presided over the meeting.

Minutes

The Commission unanimously approved the draft minutes of its meeting of October 16, 2023.

25 Church Street

The Commission considered an Application for Alteration and Demolition with respect to the Garage (demolition) and House (alteration) at 25 Church Street, owned by Jane Weber. The Application was presented by the owner's designer, Geoff Simpson.

The Commission members had previously reviewed the Application during its meeting on October 16 but determined that it could not make a decision about the Application until final proposed drawings were submitted. Accordingly, the Commission deferred the matter until such drawings were received. Such final drawings having subsequently been received, the Commission reconvened on November 20 to deliberate and rule upon them. The proposed alterations to the House reviewed by the Commission were set forth in updated and previously filed drawings and plans (the "Plans") (A2.1 dated 10/10/23, L1.0 dated 6/25/23 and X1.0 dated 9/17/23). The Commission members had reviewed them prior to the meeting, and Mr. Simpson summarized them at the meeting. Following presentation and discussion, the Commission unanimously determined that the proposed alterations to the House as depicted in the Plans do not constitute "Substantial Alteration" thereof as defined in Section 2.7 of Article XXII of the Town Bylaws (Historic Preservation and Demolition Delay). Regarding the Garage, the Commission unanimously found that it is not a contributing structure to the Church Street potential historic district (STO.T) and so is not a Significant Historic Building as defined in Article XXII of the Town Bylaws. All votes were by roll call.

Other Matters

The Commission noted that 35 Church Street, which was the subject of an application approval by the Commission on October 16, is now up for sale. Any subsequent owner who has a different plan for alteration than that approved on October will be required to come before the Commission.

Mr. Sprague noted that extensive alterations of the house at 22 Prospect Hill Road continue to happen, although the owner has never made application to the Commission. Mr. Sprague undertook to meet with the new Building Inspector (Matt Kollmer) to discuss this and other general matters.

In that regard, Ms. Rhind mentioned that substantial renovations also are happening to an old house on Train Hill Road, again without application to the Commission.

The Board discussed scheduling of its next meeting and will endeavor to meet again on December 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Dated: Stockbridge, Massachusetts
November 19, 2023

Peter C. Williams
Peter C. Williams, Secretary