

**Town of Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission**  
**Minutes of Meeting of July 26, 2021**

The Town of Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting via Zoom on Monday, July 26, beginning at 4:00 PM. Present from the Commission were Chairman Carl Sprague, Jorja Marsden, Chantal Rhind, Lisa Sauer 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 Carl Sprague presided over the meeting.

**Minutes**

The Commission unanimously approved the draft minutes of its meetings of April 12 and May 24, 2021.

**320 Old Stockbridge Road**

This matter involved an Application for Alteration ("the Application") with respect to the house at 320 Old Stockbridge Road ("Merrywood") owned by Richard and Karen Lobo. The proposed alterations are described in plans and elevations dated 5/13/21 and numbered G01, A01-A07, and S01-S04 (collectively the "Plans") and were circulated to the Commission prior to the meeting.

Attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the Application were owner Richard Lobo and architect Michael Valenti. Mr. Valenti described the history of Merrywood (c. 1882) and various alterations thereof over the years. The house is included in the book "Houses of the Berkshires" which contains an image of the original structure before the past alterations. Mr. Valenti shared via Zoom photos of the current state of the house and described its present circumstances and what are the Lobos' proposed plans going forward. The new plans include windows to match the original.

The Commission discussed the matter and asked questions. The Commission expressed the view that the proposed alterations are very sensitive to the historically significant Merrywood, and that it is a good thing that the Lobos intend to save and to restore the house.

Following these presentations and discussions, the Commission unanimously determined that the proposed alterations as described in the Plans do not constitute a "Substantial Alteration" of Merrywood as defined in Section 2.7 of Article XXII of the Town Bylaws.

**106 Interlaken Road**

This matter involved an Application for Demolition of the *circa* 1961 "camp" building (the "Building") constructed for general use by the Sports School Day Camp that occupied the parcel during part of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the application was Jane Iredale, owner of the parcel. Ms. Iredale is building a home on the site. She presented photographs of the current state of the Building, which was constructed for seasonal use by the camp and is in poor condition. Following presentation and discussion, the Commission unanimously determined that the Building is not a Significant Historic Building as defined in Section 2.6 of Article XXII of the Town Bylaws.

### **Discussion of Cottage Era Estates Bylaw**

Town citizen Anita Schwerner was present and participated in this discussion.

Carl updated the Commission on the Planning Board's contemplation of possible changes to the Town's present Cottage Era Estates bylaw. The Commission discussed and is receptive to the possibility that the Commission might assist the Planning Board in identifying significant Cottage Era estates and/or similar historic structures on larger parcels in Town. The Commission also discussed the original intent of the Cottage Estates Bylaw and how and why that Bylaw has been amended over the years.

### **Other**

The Commission discussed whether the ongoing renovations at 74 East Main Street are consistent with its approval thereof last year.

Chantal noted that she was officially sworn in as a member of the Commission this morning. Jorja reported that the Selectboard has revitalized the appointment process for the Commission, and members thereof will be reappointed on a rolling basis going forward.

### **Adjournment**

The Commission adjourned the meeting at 5:03 PM.

Dated: Stockbridge, Massachusetts  
October 17, 2021

Peter C. Williams  
Peter C. Williams, Secretary