

Town of Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of May 16, 2022

The Town of Stockbridge Historic Preservation Commission held a public meeting via Zoom on Monday, May 16, beginning at 4:00 PM. Present from the Commission were Chairman Carl Sprague, Jorja Marsden, Pam Sandler, Chantal Rhind, 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 May 2, 2022.

26 Cherry Hill Road

This matter involved an Application for Alteration (“the Application”) with respect to the House at 26 Cherry Hill Road (“the House”) owned by Hans and Kate Morris.

Attending the meeting and speaking on behalf of the Application was Mr. Morris as well as his architects Tessa Kelly and Chris Parkinson. According to the Application and Historical Commission records, the House dates from circa 1830, although it has undergone significant modifications since then. With their application, the owners included plans and drawings EX-101, EX-102, AD-101, A-000, A-001, and A-201, all dated 04/20/22 (collectively “the Plans”). The Plans depict the alterations planned by the owners, which involve removing newer additions to the House and so returning it to its original size and connecting the House, via a covered walkway, to a new studio building that would be faced to look from the road like a stone barn. The Plans also specify that the House would be moved about 100 feet further up the hill from Cherry Hill Road to provide better drainage and a new foundation.

Also with their application, the owners presented (1) excerpts from a memorandum by Stockbridge historian Lyon Miles to the Stockbridge Library Historical Room and (2) a scholarly article on Agrippa Hull written by historian Gary Nash. According to the memorandum and the article, the House was built and occupied by Agrippa Hull, a significant historical figure in Stockbridge and the nation at large.

After review and discussion of the presentation and the historical materials, the Commission unanimously determined that (a) the House is a Significant Historic Building as defined in Section 2.6 of Article XXII of the Town Bylaws, but that (b) the proposed alterations and moving of the House as described in the Plans does not constitute “Substantial Alteration” thereof as defined in Section 2.7 of Article XXII.

Adjournment

The Commission adjourned the meeting at 4:32 PM.

Dated: Stockbridge, Massachusetts
June 6, 2022

Peter C. Williams

Peter C. Williams, Secretary