EAST HADDAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Town of East Haddam Municipal Office Complex

1 Plains road

P.O. Box 385

Moodus, CT 06469

Regular Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 7:30 p.m.

Municipal Office Complex

Meeting Room 1

VIA YOUTUBE LIVE

1.) Members present: Will Brady, Steve Rossi, David Nelson and Karl Stofko

Others present: Rebecca Wonneberger, recording Secretary

2.) Call to order: the regular meeting of the East Haddam Historic District commission was called to order at 7:40pm upon the arrival of a quorum. Dr. Stofko was asked to vote in place of absent members should the need arise.

3.) Informal discussion:

Chairman Brady stated He was notified by several neighbors the resident at 40 Main Street had begin to install a very large iron gate across the driveway. Chairman Brady contacted Jimm Ventres, the zoning informant officer, who then contacted son of the owner of 40 Main Street. Mr. Ventres instructed him to remove the gate and told them they needed to file an application with the historic district commission before any such changes could be made. Chairman Brady also stated the commission had not yet received an application. Dr. Stofko stated he heard there was also a plan to add a garage onto 40 main Street. Mr. Rossi said he felt the commission should have examples of different things for the homeowners to look at, of what was acceptable in a historic district. For example, if the house was built in the 1960's it should be in keeping with the styles of gates which were popular during that time. Mr. Rossi also said the size of the gate was way too big for the size of the building. The

commission member th eorized there was a need for a gate in that location to keep people from parking in the driveway of 40 Main Street.

Mr. Nelson stated unless there was a specific reason for something to be ornate the homeowner should err on the side of simplicity. Mr. Nelson also reported he does not object to the functional purpose of a gate in only the design of the gate. Pictures of the gate were shared amongst the commission members.

Dr. Stofko stated the buildings had almost all changed hand since the district was created and suggested there should be something written up to advise new homeowners on the rules of a historic district.

Chairman Brady stated the Goodspeed opera house had filed an application and dropped it off on Thursday and he received it on Friday morning. Because there was not enough time to put notice in the paper the commission would hear the application at the next meeting on May 21. However, because the application was already received copies of the application were presented to the commission members for review. The Goodspeed wished to erect 1 20x20 tent one for the use of selling and consumption of the beverages and snacks. Mr. Rossi stated he didn't have a problem with the proposal. Mr. Nelson wondered how it would be handled during music on the river.

Mr. Rossi asked if the commission had heard anything else from Society Hall. Chairman Brady Said the commission had not yet received an application. Mr. Nelson stated there was a very large unattractive deck on the second story of the Society Hall building. Mr. Nelson also stated the commission should have received an application with listed the changes that were being made. Chairman Brady said they had spoken to the commission last month and were advised an application needed to be filed.

3.) Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss a motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Stofko and seconded by Mr. Rossi. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Wonneberger

Recording secretary