Town of Groton

**173 Main Street**

**Groton, MA 01450**

**Historic Districts Commission**

**March 15, 2022**

**7:30 pm**

**Via Zoom**

**Members Present:** Peter Benedict, George Wheatley, Maureen Giattino, Brian Cartier

**Others Present**: Attorney Robert Collins

**Admin Assistant**: Kara Cruikshank

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 pm by Chair Peter Benedict and announced this zoom meeting is being recorded, member introduced themselves.**

**20 Hollis Street Public Hearing Continuation-**

Chairman Benedict had announced the Members received a nice letter from the 20 Hollis Street homeowner, Christine Berard. This letter was to request the hearing to be continued until further notice.

**Mr. Cartier made a motion to continue the Public Hearing for 20 Hollis St. Mr. Wheatley seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously 4-0.**

**71 Main Street- Chimney Discussion-** Mr. Benedict explained he spoke with theHomeowner of 71 Main Street, Chris Woitowicz. Mr. Woitowicz was not in attendance due to traveling, but will be attending the April meeting for a Public Hearing for his chimney. He wanted to inform the Members of their proposal and would like to see if the members could possibly give an unofficial approval to remove the chimney, knowing he still needs to go through the proper channels with the scheduled Public Hearing. They have a major leak in the chimney at his home and water is going into one of the bedrooms. There is a new roof there. The chimney repairman said they will need to remove and dismantle the chimney, then rebuild throughout the house. This is a large expense; therefore Mr. Woitowicz is asking if they can remove the right chimney to the roof line and patch it.

*Members comments/Questions:*

*Member Wheatley said once the chimney is removed, nobody will remember it.*

*Member Cartier stated he typically does not like to see this happen, but looking at the design of the house it is not a symmetrical arrangement so he would not have an issue with the removal of the chimney.*

*Member Giattino agreed.*

*Chairman Benedict will inform Mr. Woitowicz they can get going with the removal chimney because of the leak.*

**240 Main Street- Bollards Discussion-**Attorney Robert Collins was present for the discussion on behalf of Mr. Gus Widmayer.

Stan Dillard found a decorative bollard and believes this will address the concerns of the planning board of having a safety barrier in the front parking lot. The Board requested planters be incorporated along the front façade. This was discussed during the February meeting. The HDC had asked for Attorney Collins to return with a different bollard. There are four bays at 240 Main Street, the idea is to have two installed between the structural columns along the front. A detail was provided of the proposed bollard.

*Ms. Giattino would prefer these over the planters.*

*Attorney Collins said the principal concern is a pedestrian being struck by a vehicle.*

*Brian Cartier believes these bollards are much more appropriate.*

**All the members are in agreeance with the bollards.**

**282 Farmers Row- Cellar Window Replacements at Schoolhouse-**After reviewing the plans for Groton School, the members decided this does not need to come before the board for discussion.

**16A Hollis Street- New/Free Standing Sign- Groton Family Dentistry-**

Groton Family Dentistry was not present for the discussion.

New signage on the existing pole in the dimensions of 36” W x 32”H and would be on 1” PVC, double sided. A cut sheet was provided to the Members.

**All members approved the signage.**

**19-29 Lowell Road- Replacement Sign- Groton Housing Authority-**

Linda Larrabee, from The Groton Housing Authority, was virtually present to discuss the signage.

Signage will be 36” by 24” and will stand on two wooden posts. The height of the signage posts would be roughly 6 feet. A cut sheet was provided to the members.

**All members approved the replacement signage.**

***Member Giattino made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 PM. Member Wheatley seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously 4-0.***

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:09 PM**

Respectfully Submitted By: