Town of Groton

**173 Main Street**

**Groton, MA 01450**

**Historic Districts Commission**

**October 17th, 2023**

**7:30 pm**

**First Floor Meeting Room**

**Members Present:** Peter Benedict, Brian Cartier, Lisa Hicks, Jennifer Rand

**Others Present**: Attorney Bob Collins,

**Administrative Assistant**: Amanda Urmann

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Benedict.**

**5 Legion Road Public Hearing:**

Applicant: Christopher Giordano

PUBLIC HEARING:

Chairman Benedict read aloud the public notice:

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40C, the Groton Historic Districts Commission (GHDC) will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 7:30 pm at The Groton Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room, 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450. This meeting will be held** to consider the application submitted by owner, Christopher Giordano, seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for **5 Legion Road, Assessors Map 112-86** to replace nine existing windows and four storm windows**.** Copies of the application and supporting materials are available for review by contacting the GHDC via the Land Use Dept, 2nd floor of the Town Hall.

Chris Giordano was present to propose his application for windows and storm door replacements. Mr. Giordano said that they were going to be going with Anderson 400 series for the windows, which are the exact model that they used on their addition, that was previously submitted and approved by the Historic District Commission. It will look exactly same, as they are not changing the style either. The storm doors will be triple tracks and aluminum, which are also the same exact design that is already on there. Both of these will also be the same color they are now.

*Member Cartier made a motion that the HDC issue a certificate of appropriateness for the application for 5 Legion Road to replace nine existing windows in the Anderson 400 series and replace four storm windows with new triple tracks. Member Hicks seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously via roll call vote.*

**250 Farmers Row, Dining Hall, Public Hearing:**

Applicant: Groton School

Attorney Bob Collins

PUBLIC HEARING:

Chairman Benedict recused himself from this application.

Member Cartier read aloud the public notice:

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40C, the Groton Historic Districts Commission (GHDC) will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 7:45 pm at The Groton Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room, 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450. This meeting will be held** to consider the application submitted by owner, Groton School, seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for **250 Farmers Row, Assessors Map 219-9** to install a temporary delivery shed adjacent to the dining hall parking lot**.** Copies of the application and supporting materials are available for review by contacting the GHDC via the Land Use Dept, 2nd floor of the Town Hall.

Attorney Bob Collins was present to propose this application for Groton School. Mr. Collins said that this was for a small delivery shed that is currently situated in this location now (which can be removed if needed). This shed is going to be the main location for deliveries. There was recently issues with delivery drivers wandering around the campus, looking for however was the recipient for the delivery. Due to this, someone decided that a central location would be beneficial and where it is located is in a parking lot that is outside of the gates and near the dining hall where the food deliveries are made, on the right side. It is four feet by eight feet by twelve feet high and made out of wood and painted dark green. It does not affect the landscaping design or the parking design and is relatively out of the way, but can also be moved at any moment if needed. The shed is “temporary” because it is not permanently affixed to a foundation.

*Member Hicks made a motion to approve the certificate of appropriateness as propose for the temporary shed at 250 Farmers Row. Member Cartier seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously via roll call vote.*

**Chairman Benedict opened the floor for the Public at this time.**

**250 Farmers Row – Groton School**

Attorney Bob Collins also had some updates about 250 Farmers Row, Regnier House. There were some outstanding items and he wanted to clarify a couple of things on something he misspoke on. The first item was the door and Groton School has agreed to restore the current door. However, they will be replacing the single pane glass window with Therma pane unit and will be weatherstripping the door and are proposing to do a full-view storm door to make it air-tight, which will be the same color as the door. Mr. Collins also corrected himself about tree removal and said that there will be three trees that are expected to be removed as they are diseased. They are to the left of the driveway near the garage and it will likely help adjacent trees. The garage door will also not be white, as he mentioned at the previous meeting, and explained that it will be that dark Groton Green color that matches the doors and shutters. This color for a garage will actually suit the location better because the garage doors throughout Groton School are also this color. Mr. Collins also clarified that the previously proposed fence will be forty feet running from the right-hand side almost all the way down and almost perpendicular to Farmers Row. Attorney Collins also said that the HVAC unit will actually be a heat pump and it will be installed on the right-hand side facade towards the back addition and they are proposing is a fence that matches the fence in the back yard with a four-foot height to obscure the view of the heat pump. This fence will be white so that it will blend in better with the house. The hardware on the garage will be black and there is no exterior lighting intended. There will be no new fixtures to the garage and only current fixtures will be replaced. If there happens to be a light, Mr. Collins said that he will come back before the board to inform them of this.

Member Cartier made a motion to approve an amendment to the certificate of appropriateness previously issued for 250 Farmers Row, Regnier House. These amendments include: the front door is to remain and be restored, to install the submitted Anderson full light storm door, remove the trees as indicated, paint the garage door green, provide the fences as shown with the rear forty-foot fence to be natural cedar and the small four-foot fence masking the HVAC unit to be white. Member Hicks seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously via roll call vote.

**240 Main Street –Sign Permit Application:**

Applicant: Kilbourn Place, LLC

This is a new sign.

There was brief discussion on submitted information for this sign permit application. The applicant needs to return with information about coloring of the sign, lighting (if any) of the sign, posts need to be wooden and not PVC, size and dimensions needs to be confirmed for the entire structure, and materials need to be listed

**Committee Interest: Jen Moore**

Jen Moore is interested in becoming a member of the HDC and attended this meeting to get an idea of how meetings are usually held and how they typically go. She had a few questions that the Board answered as well as they were able to, given their experience of being on the Historic District Commission.

**Historical Plaques Discussion:**

Michael LaTerz, member of the Historical Commission, was present to discuss the historical plaques that the Historical Commission is considering offering for the option to add to their house if they want to. This is a voluntary program if residents would like to put one of these up and the cost would be paid by them. This gives residents the opportunity to showcase the background of their homes if they so wish. There was lengthy discussion on this topic and the Board had various questions and recommendations. Mr. LaTerz mentioned that he was intending on bringing these up to the Historic Commission and he will be back to voice his findings once he does so. This is still a potential proposal and not confirmed, so the Historic District is open to suggestions and adjustments on how best to make this as appropriate and appealing as possible for the Historic District and homes.

**Commissioner Updates:** None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Member Hicks motioned to approve the meeting minutes of August 15t0h, 2023. Member Rand seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously via roll call vote.

Member Hicks motioned to approve the meeting minutes of September 19th, 2023. Member Rand seconded this motion and it was carried unanimously via roll call vote.

Next meeting to be held on November 14th, 2023.

Member Cartier made a motion to adjourn. Member Hicks seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

**Meeting Adjourned: 9:15 PM**

Respectfully Submitted By: Amanda Urmann