

Township of Harding  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Minutes  
May 3, 2018

**Opening of Meeting**

Chair, Don Dinsmore opened the meeting in accordance with Open Public Meetings Act.

**Roll Call**

Mr. Dinsmore called the roll. It went as follows:

Mr. dePoortere	Excused	Mr. Kao	Present
Mrs. Claytor	Present	Mr. Wilson	Excused
Mr. Harris	Excused	Mr. Bogusky	Present
Mr. Cooney	Present	Mr. Maselli	Present

Township Committee Liaison Dev Modi and Mayor Chris Yates were also present.

**Minutes**

Mr. Cooney made a motion to approve the March 1, 2018 minutes. It was seconded Mr. Maselli. On a voice vote, all eligible members were in favor of approving the March 1, minutes.

The April 5<sup>th</sup> minutes were tabled until the June meeting.

**Old Business**

HPC#04-05-18-4      Leslie Wentz  
6 Village Road, B17/L58  
Non-contributing New Vernon Historic District/Vacant Lot  
New Construction/Vacant Lot

Presenting:  
Leslie Wentz

- Ms. Wentz presented revised renderings that showed the requested symmetrical window changes.
- Ms. Wentz noted the changes made to the dormers.
- Mr. Maselli noted some additional design changes that would help scale the roof line.
- Mr. Maselli noted that shutters would not necessarily be historically correct.
- Mr. Maselli suggested a historically appropriate casement window for the project.

**Discussion**

#### McCabe Report

Mr. Dinsmore noted that he will be creating a request for proposals for the revision of the McCabe Report.

Mr. Dinsmore noted the success of the first Historic House of the Year and how it highlights all the work that people do to preserve historic properties. He noted that he will start the process of promoting it. It was noted that the Historical Society is also interested in this award.

#### Historic House of the Year

Mr. Dinsmore made a motion to hold the second Historic House of the year event. It was seconded by Ms. Claytor. On a voice vote, all were in favor of the event.

#### Verizon Wireless

Mr. Dinsmore addressed the proposed Verizon tree pole for the DPW location. He noted the attendance of Joseph Schuchman, Senior Architectural Historian of E2 Project Management.

Mr. Schuchman noted that the State Preservation Office is requesting comments from the HPC following the February crane test. Verizon Wireless is proposing to install a 140-foot wireless telecommunication tree pole with branches at the 146-foot level at the Harding Township Department of Public Works and Recycling Center at 8 Millbrook. They are requested by the State Preservation Office to address the impact of a cell tower on a Historic District. He added that the study would include any historic district that was in range of the tower.

The HPC asked for more information regarding the impact study.

There was a question regarding visual impact and how it affects the whole town, not just the surrounding area.

Mr. Schuchman noted that the portion of the DPW property section for the pole is not in the Historic District. Mr. Dinsmore noted that the tower would be visible from more than one historic district and the other members of the commission agreed with Mr. Dinsmore.

Mayor Yates clarified the process for the record. He noted that there are multiple processes that take place in approving a cell tower. He stated that the Historic Review is carried out by the State Historic Preservation Office. He noted that the Township Committee approved a lease and that triggers a series of reviews and opportunity for comments. He further added that the Township signed a lease that says if Verizon receives all the required approvals from the State Historic Preservation Office and the Harding Township Board of Adjustment then they can build a tower on that site. Mr. Yates explained some of the elements that the Board of Adjustment will hear in order to make a decision.

Ms. Leslie Wentz of 9 Village Road commented on the tower.

Ms. Mary Prendergast of 618 Van Beuren Road noted that she attended the crane test and read a letter prepared for the HPC expressing her concerns about the proposed cell tower.

Ms. Sarah Conine of 140 Lees Hill Road expressed her concerns over the tower's visibility.

Mr. Brian Finkel of 33 Village Road commented on his concerns on the proposed cell tower.

Jane Riley of 17 Youngs Road commented on the aesthetic of the tree design. Ms. Riley also questioned the leasing process.

Mr. Schuchman noted that the Public is welcome to submit comments.

Ms. Rita Chipperson of 11 Fawn Hill Drive inquired if the State Historic Preservation needs to approve this before it goes to the Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Yates also noted that Verizon is in front of the Township Committee proposing cell nodes but that those nodes still need to relay back to a tower.

### **Public Comment**

### **Adjournment**

There being no further discussions; the meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lori Taglairino

Recording Secretary of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Upon request a verbatim recording is available through the Historic Preservation Office