

NEW HAVEN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**Wednesday, March 11th, 2020 Regular Meeting, Meeting Room #2, 2nd floor
City Hall, 165 Church Street, 7:00 PM**

Commissioner Trina Learned calls to order the public hearing at 7:00 PM.

In attendance: Aicha Wood (City Plan), Maya Vardi (City Plan), Trina Learned (Commissioner and Chair), Tom Kimberly (Commissioner and Clerk), Doug Royalty (Commissioner), Karen Jenkins (Commissioner)

New Public Hearing

1. 20-04-CA Owner: Ruth E. Swanton. Agent: Lisa Burke, Sunrun. Seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for Installation of Solar Panels on the Roof at 41 Howard Avenue, City Point Local Historic District.

Lisa Burke, Sunrun, 75 Brainard Road, Hartford

Ruth Swanton, 41 Howard Avenue, New Haven

Ms. Swanton says she would like to install REC solar panels on the roof of her house and she doesn't think they will be visible from the street. She says her roof has the space to hold 16 panels, but she is only having 8 installed.

The Commission and the applicant discuss the location of panels and the accompanying inverter.

Commissioner Royalty moves to approve the application for installing up to 16 solar panels, as submitted.

Commissioner Kimberly seconds.

All in favor 7:33pm

2. 20-05-CA Owner: Henry Everett. Agent: Zachary Nerod. Seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for Installation of Solar Panels on the Roof at 104 Howard Avenue, City Point Local Historic District.

Zachary Nerod, 67 W Street, Brooklyn, New York

Erickson Diaz, 67 W Street, Brooklyn, New York

Mr. Nerod says he received HDC approval at the January 2020 meeting to install solar panels, but the address listed on the application was incorrect (building is two family home). He says he resubmitted application to get approval for the correct address.

Commissioner Kimberly moves to approve the application.

Commissioner Royalty seconds.

All in favor 7:36pm

Discussion

3. Relocation of the William Pinto House, 275 Orange Street

Ms. Holt, NHPT, says the owners plan to move this building over one lot on their property. This building is individually listed on the National Register and certain steps need to be taken in order to stay listed after being relocated. She says the owners hired someone to take care of completing the necessary steps and that the New Haven Preservation Trust supports the project, but she is concerned the material of one of the walls will need to be changed for fire code, and she wants to make sure the foundation is moved too.

Commissioner Royalty says the building is listed on the National Register under criteria B and C. The historic significance is the building's association with Eli Whitney and William Pinto. Whitney died in the house and Pinto, the first Jewish resident of New Haven, worked in the house. He says the building is rare in that it's a gabled front federal building. He says moving historic buildings is typically frowned upon and often leads to delisting (integrity of location important factor), but there are other elements of integrity that can make building maintain listing. Commissioner Royalty says he feels moving the building would make it lose its association with Eli Whitney, but it would still maintain integrity. He also says he is concerned about the building's foundation and what the rear of the house will look like after the removal of the rear addition.

Commissioner Learned moves that the Commission supports the project and the long-term integrity of the building.

Commissioner Kimberly seconds.

All in favor 7:56pm

4. At Risk:

- 198 River St.

Engineer says it's possible to restore building, but very expensive. Some parts of building need immediate stabilization. In opportunity zone, trying to find investor.

- 1303 Chapel St. (Walter Camp House)

The roof on the third floor was demolished due to fire damage. The owner has an architect drawing design for third floor and façade and says will show the HDC the drawings.

- 143 River St.

90 day demo delay in near future. Active manufacturer of awnings located there currently.

- 783 Orchard St.

Affordable housing project going in, house would be removed as part of project. They haven't applied for demo permit yet.

New Business

5. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes- 2/12/2020

Commissioner Royalty moves to approve minutes.

Commissioner Kimberly seconds.

All in favor 8:09pm

Commissioner Jenkins moves to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Royalty seconds.

All in favor 8:09pm

Respectfully submitted by Kristen Hopewood, recorder.