

WEST TISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date of Hearing: March 10, 2008

Attending: Lanny McDowell, Sean Conley, Nancy Dole, Anne Fisher, Mark Mazer, and Ben Moore

Absent: none

Also Attending: Chris Scott, Rhonda Backus

Hearing convened at 5:30 PM

Chris Scott presented plans for demolishing the existing shed behind Alley's General Store, and replacing it with new construction of substantially the same dimensions, configuration, roof pitch and proportions. All sidewalls will be white cedar shingles. The roof will be red cedar shingles or black asphalt. All entrance doors, window sash and mullions will be wood painted dark green. The "barn" sliding doors will be wood painted white, and all other exterior trim will be wood painted white, with the exception of the chamfered wood posts of the farmer's porch which will be painted Dark green four feet from the base and white above. There will be skylights on the west elevation, but they will not be visible from the public way. Porch flooring will be Boston City Hall pavers, and there will be only one copper fixture under the roof of the porch for exterior lighting.

A letter from Paul Garcia was read.

The plan was unanimously approved by the HDC without any discussion.

2nd hearing convened at 6 PM

Attending: as above, Ben Moore had to leave before the vote, but stated his opinion of the proposed work before leaving, which was favorable.

Also attending: Ernie Mendenhall, Kathy Logue, John Alley, Jonathan Revere, Richard Knabel, Susan Wasserman, Jack Shea, Antonia Kenny, John Keenan, Dianne Powers, Bruce McNally, Bea Phear, Chuck Hodgkinson, Jim Osmundsen

For the most part, everyone came in support of the plan for the new Town Hall as presented.

The Planning Board sent a letter saying they approved the plan and recommended the HDC do so as well.

Bea Phear and the architects (Ms. Kenny and Mr. Keenan) gave a presentation detailing how they wished to preserve and restore the old Town Hall, and add on to it.

Bea pointed out that the Town Hall as it is today did not have historic windows, the architects said they were not original, and the Town wished to return the windows to what they historically were, in terms of size and location, but use pvc trim to replace the

wood trim, and aluminum clad double pane simulated divided lites to replace single pane true divided.

The architects stated that it was not possible to distinguish between pvc and wood, once the pvc was painted, and that pvc is a superior product. It requires little or no maintenance.

The aluminum clad windows are also maintenance free and energy efficient.

The Town plans to lower the old building, in the process removing the original granite foundation which is 28" and replacing it with poured concrete, just 8" visible. They might make benches or sculptures out of some of the discarded granite.

Lowering the building makes the handicapped ramps shorter.

The ramps would have black aluminum rails that look like cast iron.

The color of the pvc trim will match whatever white the aluminum clad comes in that looks best.

The siding will be cedar shingles.

The Town would like to put solar panels on the roof.

The main entrance door will be wood, the other doors will all be fiberglass.

There was some discussion by members of the HDC as to whether these material changes were appropriate changes to make to the old Town Hall, specifically the materials the Town has chosen to use were not those recommended to the Town by the HDC. The HDC had recommended wood trim, wood windows, and retaining the granite, all of which are characteristic features of the surrounding buildings in the district.

But at the end of the discussion the HDC voted 4 to 1 to approve the plan as presented, with the exception of the solar panels and the aluminum rails: the Town must return to the HDC with more specific details concerning those two items.

The Town will reserve \$60,000 exclusively for shrubs and trees, which includes moving some trees presently there and removing some others.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy Dole, Secretary WTHDC

