

Newtown Municipal Center  
3 Primrose Street  
Newtown, CT 06470



## **HATTERTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF April 6, 2023**

#### **Present:**

Commissioners: Chris Layda-Chair, Joel Mallin-Vice Chair, Bruce Degen-Secretary, Joan Petersen, Christine Degen-Alt. Commissioner, Sally Jones-Alt. Commissioner  
Also present, District residents: Lisa Layda, Debbie Mallin, area residents Nicole Powers, Mike Powers

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

The Minutes of the last meeting, 1/14/2021, reviewed. Joel Mallin moved to accept, Bruce Degen seconded, vote was unanimous, minutes accepted.

Discussion of updating forms and procedures in the HHD.

Chris Layda circulated a new clean version of the COA application which he had prepared. The only forms available until now have been copies of copies of forms which were prepared decades ago. The content was similar but clear and legible. Comment will be considered and revisions considered and the HHD Commission will vote on the replacement at a future meeting.

Discussion of the possibility of having the form on the Town website in a downloadable form for applicants. Also a downloadable form of the HHD regs.

Discussion of the idea of reaching out to a listed realtor with a letter, as a reminder that properties in the HHD are governed by a set of regulations and that changes to structures must have a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HHD before the Town can give permits. The HHD Commission has reviewed COA applications in the last several decades, and issued approvals. The Commission views the mission of the HHD is to help keep the historic character of the District and to work with homeowners to find solutions.

When a property changes hands, in an open sale or a private sale, with the participation of a financial institution or without, there may be circumstances where the buyer might not understand the situation. When a realtor is listed, would it be useful to remind them that it is in the Historic District?

Discussion of the idea that contact with the CT Trust for Historic Preservation for information and for precedent in this area might be useful.

Joel moved to have Chris Layda reach out the CT Trust for Historic Preservation to see what information they might have concerning buyer's awareness in CT historic districts. Bruce Seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

Meeting ended at 8 pm.

Minutes Submitted by Bruce Degen, Secretary.