

SALEM HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
June 17, 2020

A meeting of the Salem Historical Commission was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 6:00 pm **Zoom Virtual Meeting** Present: Reed Cutting, Rebecca English, David Hart, Vijay Joyce, Milo Martinez, Stacey Norkun, Mark Pattison. Not present: Larry Spang.

92 Federal Street – CONTINUED TO JULY 1, 2020

Steven A. Sass submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install solar panels on rear roof

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 5/20/20
- Photographs
- Specifications from NESHW (New England Solar Hot Water)

VOTE: Ms. Norkun made a motion to continue to the next regular meeting on July 1, 2020. Mr. Cutting seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

102 Derby Street

George and Jodi Bradbury submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install new rear fence

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 5/14/20
- Photographs

VOTE: Mr. Cutting made a motion to continue to the next regular meeting on July 1, 2020. Ms. Norkun seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

14 Cambridge Street – CONTINUED TO JULY 1, 2020

14 Cambridge Street Inc. submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install aluminum gutters

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 6/1/20
- Photographs

VOTE: Ms. Norkun made a motion to continue to the next regular meeting on July 1, 2020. Mr. Joyce seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

35 Flint Street – continuation

Bowditch Condominiums submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install new stair railings

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 5/12/20
- Photographs

VOTE: Mr. Joyce made a motion to July 15th, 2020 meeting. Ms. Norkun seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

1-3 North Pine Street – continuation

Blue Sky Properties LLC submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install new fence

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 5/20/20
- Photographs

Greg Spanos was present to discuss the project.

Mr. Spanos stated that after meeting with the Commission two weeks ago to install a vinyl fence, he investigated installing a wood fence per the Commission's request. He contacted Northeast Fence per Mr. Pattison's suggestion. He is now proposing an "Open Colonial" style fence in cedar. It will be 32' away from the street, approximately 1-2' from the rear of the building. The fence sections will be 4' x 8' long, with 5" x 5" posts that could be pressure treated (PT) or cedar. The boards would be flat stock 3½" wide with 2" of space between boards. The fence sections could be face nailed to conceal the posts but that is up to the Commission to decide. The 4' wide gate would match the open colonial style and there would be two gates, one on either side. There would be a flat cap at the posts, and it would be left in natural cedar to weather. A wood fence will cost approximately 50% more to install. Another option would be to use the "Molly Pitcher" style with points at the tip of the pickets, either fence would work for him. The second style costs \$40 more per fence section and either fence could be installed as soon as the end of July or early August. The fence estimator recommended the "Open Colonial" as the most appropriate.

Mr. Joyce agreed with the fence style selection and suggested cedar posts and using mortise and tenon vs. face nailing for the fence. Mr. Pattison note that face nailing would cover the posts and the support posts. The PT can be cut down behind the fence and face nailed over so they disappear and don't stand out. Mr. Joyce recommended cedar posts because PT left raw will warp and crack without proper weathering and without full coverage face nailing to PT wood, you would still see the PT through the gaps. Mr. Spanos replied that there are closed and open panel option that conceals the entire fence, but he prefers the open feel.

Public Comment:

Joyce Kenney, 8 Heritage Drive, Apt. 23, stated that the proposed is a good fence that's she's seen elsewhere in historic districts.

No one else in the assembly wished to speak.

Mr. Spanos noted that they will use a cedar post with a cap in the mortise and tenon style. Mr. Hart noted that he installed the same fence and it's painted and has lasted for 30 years

Mr. Joyce stated that the gate hardware should be black to blend in. Ms. Norkun agreed and thanked the applicant for seeking an alternative fence.

VOTE: Mr. Joyce made a motion to accept as submitted, with cedar posts, open colonial fence style from Northeastern Fence, and black gate hardware. Mr. Cutting seconded the motion. Mr. Cutting, Mr. Hart, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Norkun, and Mr. Pattison were in favor and the motion so carried. (Ms. English and Ms. Schaeffer did not attend the previous meeting and could not vote.)

53 Summer Street

Chris and Stacey Norkun submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install new fence

Ms. Norkun recused herself as the applicant.

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 5/27/20
- Photographs

Ms. Norkun stated that this is a one-way street with little pedestrian traffic. The existing fence is rotting, semi removed, and the metal poles can be seen from the street. They want to replace the entire fence and maintain the 6-foot height halfway down then taper to 5' towards the rear property line. Boston Fence Company will do the installation and use tongue and groove white cedar wood, 5-inch x 5-inch cedar posts, antique hardware, bean shaped pull handles for pedestrian doors and sliding gate. The front façade will be painted "black Bean" to match house trim, and remainder of fence will naturally weather to get the silver sheen. The posts at the Summer Street façade are 5" x 5" at most of the fencing but 8" x 8" could be used along Summer Street to match the historic photo. Mr. Joyce replied that the historic Summer Street photo sets a precedent and should be matched as closely as possible. Mr. Pattison stated the front posts missing from the photo are there because they supported the attached gates and door. The fence most likely wraps and covers up the posts, they were there for function not beauty. The gate latches at the rear and towards the rear yard so it clears the fence. Ms. Norkun replied that that could explain the bump-out at the sidewalk that fits the door and left side fence. They would like to replicate the installation method and will confirm with their neighbors at 55 Summer Street, who are sharing the cost of the side fence.

Mr. Pattison asked if the only posts visible post would be at the doorway and if the remaining posts would be concealed. Ms. Norkun replied that they need the far-left post because of the gas meter. Mr. Pattison stated that there would be a large post at either side of the gate opening and no post at far right for symmetry.

Mr. Joyce asked for the cap detail at the posts. Ms. Norkun replied flat stock, they cannot cover the costs of custom caps due to the hundreds of linear feet proposed. They could use a fence cap typically used around Salem.

Public Comment:

Kelly & Dave Shutoff, 55 Summer Street, stated that they appreciate the research done by the Norkuns and are looking forward to this moving forward.

Mr. Hart requested the proposed finish. Ms. Norkun replied that at Summer Street it will be the same color as existing home trim color Black Bean, which is historically appropriate. The remaining fence will be left to weather. The interior at Summer Street will be painted on both sides.

James Zavaglia, 25 High Street, expressed his support for the proposed fence. His property is on historic land and they have a chain-link fence and railroad ties that separate the properties. They may need a footing for the posts and may need to take out railroad ties, but they must adhere to the property line because they may have to redesign their yard to address accessibility concerns to access their historic house.

Ms. Kelleher stated that she received a letter for support from Dennis Alvez at 57 Summer Street.

No one else in the assembly wished to speak.

Mr. Hart stated that the applicant should work with the neighbor at 25 High Street to integrate the fence design with his property, and suggested they work with Mr. Pattison on the fence details.

VOTE: Mr. Joyce made a motion to approve as submitted with the post and panel design shown in historic photograph with 8" posts at gate opening along Summer Street. Summer Street fence to be painted "Black Bean" using cedar wood, and hardware as selected from Historic Housewares. Mr. Pattison seconded the motion. Mr. Cutting, Ms. English, Mr. Hart, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Pattison & Ms. Schaeffer were in favor and the motion so carried.

Ms. Norkun rejoined the meeting.

6 Federal Court

Mary Richards submitted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install new fences

Documents & Exhibits

- Application: 6/1/20
- Photographs
- Drawings by Pomeroy & Co.

Mr. Hart recused himself as an abutter to an abutter. Mr. Cutting to fill in as acting Chair.

Jennifer Mello from Pomeroy & Co. was present to discuss the project.

Ms. Mello stated that her client is seeking approval for six fence sections surrounding the property. A 4' 10" high board fence at the North and Western property lines with a 30' long raised decorative section centered at the carriage house/barn foundation of the North property line. A 5' tall board fence with a single gate would be installed at the far end of the driveway and a 4' tall board fence with a pedestrian gate and a vehicular gate would be installed at the entrance to the driveway. The board fences will be tongue and groove, 7 1/4" wide with shaped top rails and a 3 1/2" bottom rail. The decorative portion will have salvaged brackets from the carriage house eaves on top of the fence posts with a trellis. The posts for all fence sections will be 6" x 6" cedar and will be 6" lower than the fence section. The exterior face of the fences along the North will be painted to match the body color at 95-97 Federal - custom Tan, custom Peach, and Atrium White. The fence interior along the rear will be Essex Green. The Pierce Nichols House fence was their inspiration only they will change from round to square posts and will use salvaged hardware from house.

Ms. Norkun was in favor of the reuse of the brackets. Ms. Schaeffer agreed as well as the placement of the brackets. Ms. Norkun asked about gate hardware. Ms. Mello replied that it had not been selected yet, but it will be black iron latch in an historic style with interior hinges.

Mr. Joyce asked why Essex Green was proposed for the interior fence color. Ms. Mello replied that the color is in keeping with the existing Southern fence. It also seemed appropriate to paint the exterior a color to match the neighboring house, particularly once the carriage house was demolished.

Mr. Cutting suggested that with numerous colors proposed, the Commission could require a site visit to the property. Other Commission agreed that it would not be necessary, and the drawings would be sufficient.

Ms. Norkun stated that the applicant should return approve as if but return for hardware approval

Public Comment:

Allen Hanscom, SATV, asked why the carriage house was allowed to deteriorate. Mr. Cutting replied that that issue was resolved and there will be no additional discussion on the carriage house.

No one else in the assembly wished to speak.

VOTE: Ms. Norkun made a motion to approve the application as submitted but the applicant must return for approval of the hardware. Ms. English seconded the motion. Mr. Cutting, Ms. English, Mr. Hart, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Norkun, Mr. Pattison, Mr. Joyce, and Ms. Schaeffer were in favor and the motion so carried.

Mr. Hart rejoined the meeting.

Other Business

Meeting Minutes

VOTE: Ms. Norkun made a motion to approve the December 18, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Cutting seconded. All were in favor and the motion so carried.

Violation Notices

Ms. Kelleher stated that a newly installed Little Library on Carpenter Street did not receive Commission review or approval.

Ms. Norkun stated this is a wonderful addition to the community and she did not believe it was under the purview of the Commission. Mr. Pattison noted that it's all wood. Ms. Kelleher replied that it could be considered "street furniture." Ms. Schaeffer suggested an administrative review only since its wood, painted to match the body of the house, with a shingle roof. Ms. Kelleher recommended that the Commission discuss their jurisdiction over this item further at their next meeting. Mr. Hart agreed, this is a site element and others could be garish.

Correspondence

Charter Street Cemetery: Ms. Kelleher stated that the fence restoration started this week. The temporary fence will go up and the iron fence will be removed.

Architectural Shingle Research: Ms. Norkun stated that she has done extensive research on them which will be helpful for the Commission moving forward

VOTE: Mr. Cutting made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Pattison seconded. Mr. Cutting, Ms. English, Mr. Hart, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Martinez, Ms. Norkun, Mr. Pattison, Mr. Joyce, and Ms. Schaeffer were in favor and the motion so carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Kelleher
Community Development Planner