## HISTORIC DISTRICT & HISTORIC PROPERTY COMMISSION

Janet Foster, Chairman
Jonathan Foltz
Kevin Quinlan
Carol Russell
Marian Wulffleff
Alternates
Jerre Dawson
Tierney O'Hearn
Harriet "Scotty" Taylor



TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, Connecticut 06897

# MINUTES June 8, 2009 OLD TOWN HALL

#### I. Call to Order:

- a. Chairman Foster called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.
- b. Attendance: Foster, Foltz, Quinlan, Russell, Wulffleff, and Taylor.

### **II.** Approval of prior Meeting Minutes:

a. Meeting minutes from May were accepted as written, Russell moved, Wulffleff seconded.

#### III. Old Business

#### A. Cannondale Historic District update:

- a.) Commissioner Russell reported that after discussing scenarios at last meeting the Commissioners decided to see if the residents would be in favor of a residential-only district. The overwhelming majority of the residents replied "No". They want a mixed business/residential district.
- b.) Commissioner Russell provided copies of an exhibit illustrating various scenarios for the Cannondale Historic District:

Option 1 is the same map as was originally submitted, with the one correction of the removal of property 10b. (the Wilton Land Trust property). Anticipated voting result would be 72% approval;

Option 2 is the same map as Scenario 1, but with counting one vote for each property (as opposed to one vote for each property owner); The property 10b is re-inserted in this scenario of one vote for each property. Anticipated voting result would be 62% approval;

Option 3 eliminates the properties without buildings and eliminates the Land Trust properties (per yellow highlights). Anticipated voting result would be 67% approval;

Option 4 eliminates some properties (per yellow highlights) and adds some properties (per green highlights) that were not in the original ordinance. Anticipated voting result would be 69% approval;

Option 5 also eliminates some properties (per yellow highlights) and adds some properties (per green highlights) that were not in the original ordinance. Anticipated voting result would be 67% approval;

- c.) Several residents of the Cannondale area attended the hearing portion of the meeting, which began at 8:00 p.m., in order to ask questions and/or voice opinions regarding the potential Cannondale HD ordinance. (A list of attendees is available upon request from the Clerk of the WHD&HPC.) In all, nine residents shared their opinions and the discussion was very lively and spirited, and at times quite contentious.
- d.) One property owner had his legal representative attend the meeting. His legal representative spoke to the Commission on certain aspects of the ordinance in his capacity as an attorney (as opposed to in his capacity as a Town of Wilton resident) and Chairman Foster cautioned the attorney that the Commissioners could not feel comfortable addressing his points without our Commission having legal representation present.
- e.) After further questions and opinions voiced by the attendees had subsided, Chairman Foster encouraged further meetings between the residential and commercial property owners be held in the neighborhood to try to resolve some of the lingering animosities. The Cannondale HD-related hearing ended at 9:04 p.m.
- f.) Following the hearing on the proposed Cannondale HD, the Commissioners gathered their collective thoughts and discussed possible next steps.
- **B.** Congregational Church construction update: completed project looks very appropriate.
- C. Projects assignment update:
  - a. State Register listing J. Dawson (to commence in Spring 2009)
  - b. Local government certification research—J. Foltz (ongoing)
- IV. New Business: (none)
- V. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:05, moved Quinlan, seconded Wulffleff.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Quinlan Clerk

Following this meeting the Commission adjourned for the summer recess. The next Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Old Town Hall, 7:30 PM.