TOWN OF VERNON

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OFFICE OF THE
LOCAL HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION

Minutes – Regular Meeting – September 8, 2011

1.0 Chairman Hurd called the meeting to order at 7:31. Members present included Courtois, Hurd, Iacobello, Nelson, Nicholson, and Saucier. Nelson sat for Quinn. Also present was Shaun Gatley, Economic Development Coordinator, and Bill Soucy.

2.0 Minutes
- 2.1. Acceptance of Minutes, Regular Meeting of August 11– On a motion by Nelson seconded by Saucier, minutes of the meeting approved unanimously with one abstention.

3.0 Communication – None

4.0 PZC, ZBA, Demolition Applications
- 4.1. Waiver of Delay of Demolition for Bill Soucy – 56 Hyde Avenue - The intention is to demolish the house and rebuild on the foundation. The new building will house a pet grooming business. The initial plan was to remodel the building. During construction excessive termite damage was discovered. Saving the building is not an option. The house has no historic value. A motion by Iacobello, seconded by Nelson, was made to grant the waiver. The motion passed unanimously. A letter will be sent to the Building Official, copied to the applicant informing them of the decision.
- 4.2. Zoning Application from ECHN for the construction of four parking lots at 8, 11and 12 Ward Street and 35 Village Street, Rockville – The commission viewed plans of the project. After the discussion a motion was made by Iacobello, seconded by Nelson to draft a letter stating the commission's concerns and recommendations for project. These are: 1 – The project ***may*** provide parking that will support the rehabilitation of the PAC building on Village Street, 2 – The design fails to complement the efforts to revitalize the character of Village Street, 3 – New lighting design may soften the effect. The current design clashes with the current design at RGH and in the downtown area. 4 – There are no details for the fencing and retaining walls. The commission would like to see a stamped concrete used for the walls. 5 – Enclosing the lots with a decorative fence that matches the fence at the hospital would add to the project. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Hurd will compose the letter.

5.0 County Home School
- 5.1. Work is progressing. The roofing is completed. Completion of the project is expected to be in late November.

6.0 Unfinished Business
- 6.1. Design Guidelines - No change
- 6.2. Strong Farm, War Memorial Tower and Hockanum Company House– The information is being collated. Drafts should be ready for the November meeting.
- 6.3. Review of Vernon's MPOCD – Reviewing the document the commission sees the need to put more emphasis on the Vernon Center District. The commission will attend the PZC meeting on October 13 to comment on the draft.

7.0 New Business
- 7.1. Commission member Sarah Iacobello had structural damage to a storage building at her residence due to a Hurricane Irene. She would like to save as much of the structure. Her insurance company is requesting a letter stating the historical significance of the structure. Chairman Hurd will write the letter. A suggestion was made to contact the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation for additional assistance.
- 7.2. The October meeting will be cancelled to allow the members to attend the PZC meeting scheduled for the same evening.

8.0 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45

Respectfully submitted,

[DRAFT FOR APPROVAL]
Paul Courtois, Secretary
Date Approved: