



TOWN OF OLD LYME

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Old Lyme Historic District Commission

Minutes

Regular Monthly Meeting

January 8, 2024 @ 9:00 a.m.

Memorial Town Hall Meeting Room

52 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT 06371

This meeting was conducted with in-person and remote (conference call) attendance options.

Attendance:

Regular members: John Noyes (Co-Chair) by telephone, Dini Mallory (Co-Chair), Debra Czarnecki, Carolyn Wakeman, Russ Todd by telephone

Alternate members: Edward Pinn by telephone

Guests: none

Call to order; Quorum call; Approval of December 4, 2023, meeting minutes:

Dini Mallory called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A quorum was present.

Debra Czarnecki moved, seconded by Carolyn Wakeman, to accept the December 4, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. In favor: D. Mallory, J. Noyes, D. Czarnecki, R. Todd, C. Wakeman. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Secretary's Report: Active CofAs, web page updates, plaque program update, annual CLG Report, National Votes for Women Trail marker update

Status of CofAs and Other Situations Being Monitored: The HDC is currently tracking and/or monitoring 10 properties involving active CofAs or other situations.

1. Ferry Road sidewalk: the project has gone out to bid. A one-year extension of the STEAP Grant was approved due to project delays.
2. 6 Lyme St.: HVAC screening
3. 38 Lyme St.: renovations continue, CofA extension expires 9/12/24
4. 57 Lyme St.: OLCLC renovations, CofA expires 9/22/24
5. 76 Lyme St.: chimney removal – CofA expires 2/6/24; Like for Like form submitted for maintenance/repairs



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6. 84 Lyme St. (Lyme Academy of Fine Arts): new signs have been installed but protrude into the public right-of-way on the sidewalk. A Like for Like form has been filed for the parking lot resurfacing.
7. 96 Lyme St.: Florence Griswold Museum signs – CofA expires 2/6/24
8. 97 Lyme St.: garden shed – CofA expires 9/22/24
9. 100 Lyme St. (RTPEC): caretaker’s cottage renovations – CofA expires 2/6/24
10. 100 Lyme St. (RTPEC): story boards – CofA expires 9/22/24

Web page updates: most of the information is correct, but several links lead to old information and some informational links need to be added. A copy of the *Historic District Handbook* also needs to be added.

CLG report: the annual Certified Local Government Report is ready to be filed.

Plaque program update: 62 Lyme Street; Tracy Navarro asked Skip Broome to look at the house and the foundation to help determine the date of construction.

National Votes for Women Trail marker update: The Pomeroy Foundation would like a photo of the new location of the marker after it is moved.

Action: File CLG Report; follow up with corrections to web page and 62 Lyme Street historic plaque (Martha Hansen).

Co-Chairs’ Report: Dini Mallory

Russ Todd has agreed to remain on the HDC for another term. Julie Malloy has applied to join the Commission as an alternate member.

Election of Officers:

Carolyn Wakeman moved, seconded by Rudd Todd, to nominate John Noyes and Dini Mallory as Co-chairs of the HDC for 2024. In favor: D. Czarnecki, R. Todd, C. Wakeman. Opposed: None. Abstentions: D. Mallory, J. Noyes. Motion carried.

Railway Plans Discussion:

The HDC discussed a memo posing questions about Amtrak’s Capacity Planning Study relating to metrics adopted in the 2017 NEC FUTURE Record of Decision, noting changes in and affecting the Historic District since 2017, and recapping concerns raised in 2016-2017 concerning railway proposals. The HDC wants to be a point of contact for the Capacity Planning Study.



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Russ Todd made a moved, seconded by Carolyn Wakeman, to approve sending the final copy of a memo concerning the Capacity Planning Study to Amtrak, the Federal Railway Administration, NEC FUTURE, and the State Historic Preservation Office, copying various government representatives and officials. In favor: J. Noyes, D. Mallory, D. Czarnecki, R. Todd, C. Wakeman. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

Russ Todd left the meeting at 10:02, and Edward Pinn was authorized to vote.

Sign policy discussion:

Discussion continued about political lawn signs and clarifications to the HDC's sign policy. Comments about the draft sign policy will be solicited from by Eric Knapp, ZEO, and input will be requested from the Democratic and Republican Town Committees about political lawn signs as part of the HDC's process of reviewing the sign policy in the Historic District.

Action: Send request for input to the Democratic and Republican Town Committee chairs (Martha Hansen); send draft sign policy to Eric Knapp, ZEO (John Noyes).

FY24/25 Budget Request: The HDC budget request is the same as last year, no increase.

New and Ongoing Business: Dini Mallory said that there appears to be a new mechanical installation at 78 Lyme Street. The HVAC units at 6 Lyme Street remain to be screened.

Action: Send letters to owners of 78 Lyme Street and 6 Lyme Street (Martha Hansen).

John Noyes reported that an individual has submitted a formal complaint to Zoning about the signs that overhang the sidewalk at LACFA.

Adjournment:

John Noyes moved, seconded by Dini Mallory, to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 a.m. In favor: D. Mallory, J. Noyes, D. Czarnecki, E. Pinn, Opposed: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be on February 5, 2024.