



**Historic District Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
Monday, February 13, 2023, 6:00pm  
Narragansett Town Hall**

**Convene:** Chairman Lescarbeau called the meeting to order at 6:13pm.

**Roll Call:** Keith Lescarbeau-Chairman, Karen Catuogno-Vice Chairman, Nanci Adams-Secretary, John Tyburski-Alternate, Francis Figueroa-*arrived at 6:22pm*

**Absent with cause:** Richard Campbell

**Also Present:** Michael DeLuca-Community Development Director, Heidi Petrone-Clerk

**Administrative Matters:** Nothing noted

**Consent Agenda**

1C: **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** January 10, 2023

A **Motion** was made by K. Catuogno, seconded by J. Tyburski, to **Approve** the Consent Agenda. Motion **Passes** 4 to 0 (K. Lescarbeau-**Aye**, K. Catuogno-**Aye**, N. Adams-**Aye**, J. Tyburski-**Aye**)

**Public Hearing**

2PH: **57B Rodman Street:** Install Fencing

**Owner:** Ken Hanly

M. DeLuca noted that the applicant was not able to attend the meeting, however he and Chairman Lescarbeau had discussed the application, and both felt that the application was not a significant project and could go forward without the applicant present. M. DeLuca noted that this project would in fact qualify for an administrative approval when the revised HDC ordinances are approved by the Town Council in the near future. K. Catuogno stated she had visited the property and you cannot even see the house from the street, never mind the proposed fencing, and she has no concerns for this project. M. DeLuca noted that the hearing needed to be opened.

A **Motion** was made by K. Catuogno, seconded by F. Figueroa, to open the hearing. There was no call for a total vote and the hearing began.

M. DeLuca reviewed the staff report dated January 24, 2023, and stated that Staff has no objections about the proposal and recommends approval with no conditions.

There were no questions or concerns from the Commission members and no one from the public spoke in favor or against the project.

A **Motion** was made by N. Adams, seconded by F. Figueroa, to **Close** the public hearing. Motion **Passes** 5 to 0 (K. Lescarbeau-**Aye**, K. Catuogno-**Aye**, N. Adams-**Aye**, F. Figueroa-**Aye**, J. Tyburski-**Aye**)

A **Motion** was made by N. Adams, seconded by F. Figueroa, to **Approve** the application as submitted. Motion **Passes** 5 to 0 (K. Lescarbeau-**Aye**, K. Catuogno-**Aye**, N. Adams-**Aye**, F. Figueroa-**Aye**, J. Tyburski-**Aye**)

3PH: **65 Robinson Street:** Addition of Screen Porch and other Exterior Improvements

**Owner:** Susan and Michael Bush

Nanci Adams recused herself from this public hearing as she is the next-door neighbor to the applicant and signed the recusal form. With this recusal there was not a quorum to open the public hearing and it was moved to the March 14, 2023, Historic District Commission meeting.

**New Business**

4NB: **Discussion:** Section 5.3 – Definition of “Contributing Structure” and “Non-Contributing Structure” – not for action

Chairman Lescarbeau started the discussion stating that he thinks the major consideration is the date used to determine if a property is a contributing structure, as properties are being lost daily. He believes that if the definition is changed to state 60 years instead of prior to December 31, 1949, that will address the issue and numerous properties will be gained.

M. DeLuca explained that he has reviewed a few local communities historic district regulations and none of them set a date to define a contributing structure. Chairman Lescarbeau stated he believes those communities use the federal standard of more than 49 years old. K. Catuogno noted that the state historic district regulations do not list a definition of a contributing structure. M. DeLuca stated he will do more research into other communities' historic regulations and will contact the RI Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission to gain more information. He then suggested to continue the discussion to the next HDC meeting and Chairman Lescarbeau concurred.

There were no questions or comments from the public and no motions/votes were made/taken.

### Old Business

Nothing noted.

### **Items for Next Agenda:**

### **Reports from Staff/Commission:**

- Chairman Lescarbeau continued a discussion with the Commission members regarding hardie board versus clapboards. No action taken.
- M. DeLuca stated that future HDC meetings will be held in the large board room and no longer in the Council Chambers, unless needed for an anticipated large crowd.

### **Adjournment:**

A **Motion** was made by N. Adams, seconded by K. Catuogno, to **Adjourn** the meeting at 7:05pm. Motion **Passes** 5 to 0 (K. Lescarbeau-**Aye**, K. Catuogno-**Aye**, N. Adams-**Aye**, F. Figueroa-**Aye**, J. Tyburski-**Aye**)

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Petrone  
Clerk to the Commission