



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Historic District Commission

*William Childress, Chairman
Barbara Harms, Vice Chair
Jan Furman, Secretary*

www.oldsaybrookct.gov

302 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
(860) 395-3131

*Diane Aldi DePaola
Laura Gray*

Alternate Members
*Richard Peters
Alan Cantor
Paul Knierim*

**MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID MEETING**

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall 2nd floor conference room
302 Main Street, Old Saybrook

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman W. Childress called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:

William Childress
Barbara Harms
Diane Aldi DePaola *Attending Virtually*
Paul Knierim *Seated for Laura Gray*

Members Absent:

Jan Furman
Richard Peters
Alan Cantor
Laura Gray

Staff Present:

Lynette Wacker, *Assistant Town Planner*
Carl Fortuna, *First Selectman*
Sofia Beaudoin, *HDC Recording Clerk*

Applicant Present:

Michael Chapin, *151 North Cove Road*

III. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Minutes – 9/20/22

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes for September 20, 2022, as written.
MADE by: D. Aldi DePaola; **SECONDED** by: P. Knierim; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** P. Knierim, D. Aldi DePaola, B. Harms, W. Childress; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

B. Correspondence – None.

C. Committee, Representative, and Staff Reports - W. Childress thanked L. Wacker for the provided materials; L. Wacker proposed readdressing these later in the meeting - *see section VI. Discussion.*

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. “William Tully House” Certificate of Appropriateness as to Exterior Features to build a pergola above existing outdoor kitchen.
151 North Cove Road (Map 32/Lot 5)
Owner/Applicant: Michael Chapin
ACTION: Filed 11/1/2022; open public hearing, decision by 12/20/2022 (NLT 1/4/2023)

Exhibit A: Application for Certificate of Appropriateness as to Exterior Features

Exhibit B: 151 North Cove Road Property Survey Plan Showing Improvements

Paul Knierim recused himself from this proceeding based on homeownership within “adjacent properties” to homeowner and applicant Michael Chapin.

Chairman W. Childress confirmed that he would then be hearing this matter alongside D. Aldi DePaola and B. Harms.

Having already begun the construction of his post and beam structure, M. Chapin began by apologizing for not originally applying appropriately. He explained that he had been unaware that his project fell under HDC’s jurisdiction.

Chapin elaborated on the details of his build. Michael Chapin, William Tully homeowner residing at 151 N. Cove Rd., has erected a post and beam pergola above his existing outdoor kitchen. It is 15 ft. x 7 ft., and approximately 8 ft. tall. The pergola is fastened to the back of the existing stone wall using metal fasteners and bolts, which are hidden from view. M. Chapin expressed that he would like to incorporate a cedar roof atop the structure.

D. Aldi inquired once more about the materials being used for the roof of the pergola. Chapin responded that he would like to construct a roof using wood topped with cedar shingles, having decided against his original plan of moving forward with an aluminum roof. All present commission members responded affirmatively to this decision.

B. Harms asked the applicant if he needed to pull a Building Permit for this construction, to which M. Chapin responded no, not to his understanding. W. Childress advised Mr. Chapin to follow up with Chris Costa on this matter.

W. Childress suggested that M. Chapin’s explanation had been consistent with the photos and descriptions provided on the homeowner’s submitted application [Exhibit A](#) and that the construction is appropriate to the neighborhood. All members expressed gratitude for M. Chapin’s appearance and application compliance.

MOTION to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness as to Exterior Features, as requested. **MADE** by: D. Aldi DePaola; **SECONDED** by: B. Harms; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Aldi DePaola, B. Harms, W. Childress; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 3-0-0.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

2023 Meeting Calendar - 3rd Tuesday of each month going forward.

Some discussion of readdressing the meeting time to an earlier hour of the day.

Agreement to further-discuss at a later time.

MOTION to approve the 2023 Meeting Calendar, as written. **MADE** by: D. Aldi DePaola; **SECONDED** by: P. Knierim; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Aldi DePaola, P. Knierim, B. Harms, W. Childress, P. Knierim; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

VI. DISCUSSION

Update of Historic and Cultural Resources section of the Plan of Conservation and Development

L. Wacker provided materials regarding Old Saybrook's Certified Local Government (CLG) status.

C. Fortuna fondly recalled working alongside a motivated intern who was particularly interested in Old Saybrook's Certified Local Government status, and who spearheaded the certification process in 2013.

A general discussion regarding the town's status followed.

Members presented various suggestions for the overall promotion, education, and preservation of the Historic significance and attributes of Old Saybrook. No major decisions were made at this time.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. until the next regular meeting of Tuesday, December 19, 2022, 7:00 p.m., Old Saybrook Town Hall; **MADE** by: W. Childress; **SECONDED** by: Barbara Harms; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** D. Aldi DePaola, P. Knierim, B. Harms, W. Childress; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINED:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.