



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Historic District Commission**

*William Childress, Chairman  
Diane Aldi DePaola, Vice  
Chair  
Jan Furman, Secretary  
Mary Kennedy  
Barbara Harms*

[www.oldsaybrookct.gov](http://www.oldsaybrookct.gov)

**Alternate Members**  
*Eugene Creighton  
Richard Peters  
Alan Cantor*

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**  
Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/97886358510>  
Teleconference: +1 929 436 2866 Meeting ID: 978 8635 8510

I. **CALL TO ORDER** - The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present: W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms, E. Creighton and A. Cantor.

Absent: R. Peters

Also Kristen Roberts, Applicant, C. Nelson, Land Use Director and A. Merritt, Recording Clerk. Two members of the public joined the call.

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Minutes**

**MOTION** to approve the April 21, 2020 minutes by: M. Kennedy; **Seconded** by: D. Aldi DePaola; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

B. **Correspondence** – None

C. **Committee, Representative and Staff Reports**

C. Nelson noted that the Town Hall staff is preparing for the re-opening and she updated the Commission on behind the scenes, historic resources inventory taking place and how that inventory might be of use to the Historic District Commission.

**MOTION** to discuss Old Business after New Business was made by: W. Childress; **Seconded** by: M. Kennedy; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Certificate of Appropriateness as to Exterior Features**

Modify prior approval of cedar to substitute asphalt roof shingles and cedar fencing  
118 North Cove Road (Map 32/Lot 62)

Applicant: Kristen Roberts, owner

**MOTION** to open the public hearing of the applicant's exterior feature changes was made by D. Aldi DePaola; **Seconded** by M. Kennedy; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

The Commission noted that the roof had already been installed by the time of the public hearing. Applicant explained the reason for asphalt instead of cedar was due to delays related to the virus and because the entire roof needed to be replaced as opposed to the original plan of fixing only areas needing repair. W. Childress explained that changes should not be made to the version of the approved application without securing a revised approval. B. Harms reiterated this point of proper procedure. W. Childress confirmed that this house is not a designated contributor. He also noted that the replaced roof was originally cedar. The Applicant noted that the surrounding homes also have asphalt and responded with the concerns of delays. D. Aldi DePaola highlighted that the process is for the owner to come to the commission for approval before making the changes. M. Kennedy reminded the group that there was a contributing structure that had to replace a roof under these similar circumstances.

The Applicant withdrew the issue of fencing after a brief discussion about the fencing material options. B. Harms suggested the Applicant review the Historic District's Criteria and Guidelines document available online. W. Childress asked if members of the public wished to speak, with no response, the Chairman proceeded to close the public hearing.

**MOTION** to close the public hearing was made by B. Harms; **Seconded** by D. Aldi DePaola; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

**MOTION** to approve the applicant's exterior feature change from cedar roofing material to asphalt shingles was made by B. Harms; **Seconded** by D. Aldi DePaola; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

B. **Preservation Initiative—Historic Signs Restoration**

B. Harms and C. Nelson updated the Commission on the status of the ghost sign restoration options, preservation criteria, available budget, process to engage this assessment with the town and contacting the property owner.

**MOTION** to engage the sign restoration assessment with a was made by D. Aldi DePaola; **Seconded** by B. Harms; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

## VII. DISCUSSION

The Commission has received calls about the painting of an American flag on an outbuilding at 91 North Cove Road. W. Childress and D. Aldi DePaola confirmed that the Commission does not have jurisdiction over color use. A. Cantor voiced concern if others created similar paintings, this could change the feel of the district. The members acknowledged that the situation is not within the Commission's purview.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting until the next Regular Meeting of **Tuesday, June 16th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**, was made by B. Harms; **Seconded** by M. Kennedy; **In Favor:** W. Childress, D. Aldi DePaola, J. Furman, M. Kennedy, B. Harms; **Opposed:** None. **Abstained:** None. **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Merritt, Recording Clerk