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**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS  
NEWTON UPPER FALLS HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**DATE:** January 12, 2023

**PLACE/TIME:** Fully Remote  
7:00 p.m.

**ATTENDING:** Jeff Riklin, Chair  
Scott Aquilina, Member  
Laurie Malcom, Member  
Paul Snyder, Member  
Barbara Kurze, Staff

**ABSENT:** Judy Neville, Member  
Daphne Romanoff, Member  
John Wyman, Alternate

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Jeff Riklin presiding as Chair. Voting permanent members were S. Aquilina, L. Malcom, and P. Snyder. B. Kurze acted as recording secretary and the meeting was recorded on Zoom.

**207-209 Elliot Street – Certificate of Appropriateness**

This review was continued from a previous meeting. Mark Logue and Jim Egan presented an application to replace an existing wall and patio at the back of the house. The new wall section would be a boulder wall. The applicants presented two options for the patio pavers: smaller pavers and larger bluestone pavers.

Materials Reviewed:

APPLICATION LINK: <https://newtonma.viewpointcloud.com/records/780063>

PDF File: Compiled Materials\_207-209 Elliot

Assessors database map

Photos

Survey

Site plan

Wall section

MHC Form B

L. Malcom and J. Riklin did not think the boulder wall was appropriate; it introduced a wall type that was not consistent with the historic walls at the back and not consistent with typical historic walls in the district. A wall similar to the either of the historic back wall sections would be fine; one section was made of thinner and smaller rubble stone, the other was made with larger stones mixed with smaller stones. They noted that the wall was visible from Cottage Street. S. Aquilina and P. Snyder thought that the proposed wall was fine. Commissioners said that the larger bluestone pavers were appropriate and consistent with the pavers used for the patio at the other unit. L. Malcom moved to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the application as submitted for the patio with conditions. S. Aquilina seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

L. Malcom moved to deny the application for the boulder wall. There was no second and the motion did not move forward. Commissioners asked if there were examples of the proposed wall that they could see. J. Riklin offered to meet with the applicants to look at the existing walls and site. The owner agreed in writing to continue the review of the stone wall to a future regularly scheduled meeting.

### **RECORD OF ACTION:**

**DATE:** January 19, 2023

**SUBJECT:** 207-209 Elliot Street, Unit 2 - Certificate of Appropriateness

At a scheduled meeting and public hearing on January 12, 2023, the Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission, by roll call vote of 4-0,

**RESOLVED** to **grant** a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project as submitted at 207-209 Elliot Street, Unit 2, to replace the rear patio with the requirement that bluestone pavers be used in a pattern like the neighboring unit patio.

### **Voting in the Affirmative:**

Jeff Riklin, Chair

Scott Aquilina, Member

Laurie Malcom, Member

Paul Snyder, Member

### **15 Oak Street – Certificate of Appropriateness**

Owners Mai Uchida and Jacques Wood presented an application to relocate the existing shed which was built without commission approval. They proposed two options for the new location, both locations were along the left property line. The owners noted that they did not have a garage and needed a storage space. They wanted to remove the asphalt connector from the circular drive to the house and replace it with a five-foot-wide brick walkway in a pattern like the existing brick walkway. Two brick patios would be installed and connected with two small pathways. A new stair with railings would be built to access the left side porch and the railing system would be custom-milled cedar to match the railings at the existing side entrance. A wood trellis would be installed near the smaller patio.

### **Materials Reviewed:**

APPLICATION LINK: <https://newtonma.viewpointcloud.com/records/766450>

PDF File: Compiled Materials\_15 Oak

Assessors database map

Photos

Project description

Survey

Proposed landscape plan

Elevations for new stair

Product and material information for shed

MHC Form B

Commissioners said that the project was appropriate, but the walkway patterns needed to match the existing walkway; the patios could be a herringbone pattern. The second option for the shed location was appropriate as it was at the back corner of the lot. The first option was too obtrusive. S. Aquilina moved to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for the application as submitted with conditions. P. Snyder seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

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**RECORD OF ACTION:**

**DATE:** January 13, 2023

**SUBJECT:** 15 OAK ST - Certificate of Appropriateness

At a scheduled meeting and public hearing on January 12, 2023 the Newton Upper Falls Historic District Commission, by roll call vote of 4-0,

**RESOLVED to grant** a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project as submitted at 15 OAK ST to relocate the existing shed with the requirement that the new location will be the back left corner of the lot (Alternative #2), build a new stair for the side porch, install two brick patios, and brick walkways with the requirement that existing walkway brick pattern will be used, and install a trellis.

Voting in the Affirmative:

- Jeff Riklin, Chair
- Scott Aquilina, Member
- Laurie Malcom, Vice Chair
- Paul Snyder, Member

Voting in the Negative:

Abstained:

Recused:

**Administrative discussion**

Minutes: May and December 2022 minutes were approved.

New meeting material process: commissions thought the new process for accessing application materials via the NewGov system was working well.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.