



**Town of Woodbury  
Historic District Commission**

281 Main Street South  
Woodbury, CT 06798  
203.263.3467 [www.woodburyct.org](http://www.woodburyct.org)

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**MINUTES – JUNE 6, 2022**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**7:30 PM –Shove Building, 281 Main Street South, Woodbury, CT 06798**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Maureen Donnarumma, Chair  
Susan Cheatham, Vice Chairman  
George Messier

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**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Lois Y. Fiftal  
Robert S. Kolesnik, Jr.

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**ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Mark Kroll  
Judith Kelz

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**ALTERNATES ABSENT**

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**NOTED OTHERS PRESENT**

Richard Desrochers  
Destiny Rodriguez  
Thomas Schwenke

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**OPENING OF MEETING**

- **Call to Order**  
Chair Donnarumma convened the regular meeting at 7:30 pm.
- **Seating of Members / Alternates**  
Seated for the meeting were members Donnarumma, Cheatham, Messier, Kroll, Kelz
- **Conflict of Interest Reminder (CGS §8-11 & Woodbury Town Charter Section 901)**  
Chair Donnarumma reminded the Commission of Conflict of Interest; No member expressed a conflict with any matter on the agenda.

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**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- None

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**PENDING APPLICATIONS**

- None

**NEW APPLICATIONS**

- **22-HD-2211 – 506 Main Street South / Map 103, Lot 5 / MSD District**  
***Amendment of 21-HD-2190*** – Exemption requested pursuant to Section 7.2.4 for minor changes substantially not visible from the abutting street (or for “approval” if exemption is not granted):  
***Section 2: Light Fixtures*** – Installation of recessed lights under roof overhang.  
***Section 7: Remodeling*** – Install 500 sf (10 ft x 50 ft) building addition to rear side on lower elevation. Materials to match existing building.  
***Section 8: Windows*** – Install windows with wood trim on building rear face to match existing.  
***Section 9: Doors*** – Install aluminum door with wood trim on building rear face to match existing.  
***Section 10: Roof*** – Install black asphalt shingles on extension to match existing roof shingles.  
506 Main Street South LLC (owner), Richard Desrochers.

Richard Desrochers came forward seeking an exemption request for minor changes in remodel. Changes include adding a 10-foot addition onto the rear of the building. Windows were previously approved and are simply being moved from the current wall to the exterior wall of the 10-foot addition. All materials will match existing materials. Donnarumma doesn't think the exemption should be considered minor since it can be seen from the road. Desrochers mentioned Planner Agresta thought it might be considered exempt and it was noted that if the change is minor, the Commission can give an exemption. Will deliberate.

**Questions? Comments?**

Commissioners – None

- **22-HD-2212 – 107 Main Street North / Map 90, Lot 5 / MSD District**  
***Section 1: Signage*** – Installation of hanging signs at building and sign on freestanding sign at street. Destiny Rodriguez (applicant), 107 Main Street North Woodbury LLC (owner) – Pasquale Civitella (member).

Destiny Rodriguez is the new owner of 107 Main St. N and wants to update the existing sign for her business. She showed a picture on her cellphone of what the existing sign looks like and noted that she is not making changes to the freestanding sign, just to the hanging sign that will attach to it. All materials are made of wood and will remain the same. Only the hanging store sign will be updated to reflect the business name. The original application stated the sign was made of metal. A change was made to reflect that the actual material is wood and was crossed off and initialed on the application by Rodriguez.

**Questions? Comments?**

Commissioners – None

**Motion:**

To Accept Application and to Schedule Public Hearing for July meeting

**Moved by KELZ, Seconded by KROLL**

**Vote: 5-0-0 – Approved – Motion Passed**

Aye Donnarumma, Cheatham, Messier, Kroll, Kelz

Nay None

Abstain None

- **22-HD-2213 – 66 Main Street North / Map 105, Lot 076 / MSD District**  
**Section 5: Fences** – Installation of 150 linear feet of 6 feet high (8-foot sections with 4.5" square posts and architectural top cap) tongue and groove solid white cedar wooden board fencing along north side yard property line. Thomas G. Schwenke and David M. Newell (owner/applicant)

There was no one to speak on the application at the time it was called. The purpose of the fence is for privacy, and it has been erected 75 feet from the curb, as to not block the view of traffic. Messier questioned whether the approval of the fence is simply for the design and not for the correct placement per zoning regulations. Commission determined the applicant will have to comply with all other zoning requirements. Mr. Schwenke arrived after motion to accept the application was approved. He apologized for being late and for completing a fencing project that was not previously approved. He was unaware that he had to seek approval from the Commission first. He reiterated that the fence would remain its natural wood color and will not be painted and thanked the board.

Questions? Comments?  
 Commissioners – None

**Motion:**

To Accept Application

**Moved by KROLL, Seconded by MESSIER**

Vote: 5-0-0 – **Approved** – Motion Passed

Aye Donnarumma, Cheatham, Messier, Kroll, Kelz

Nay None

Abstain None

**EXEMPTION REQUESTS / OFFICE DETERMINATIONS ISSUED**

- None

**DELIBERATIONS**

- **22-HD-2211 – 506 Main Street South / Map 103, Lot 5 / MSD District**  
 Commission deliberated as to whether the change in scope of work should be considered a minor change. Applicant was already approved for the renovation. Donnarumma stated that the addition can be seen from the street.

**Motion:**

To issue Exemption.

**Moved by KROLL, Seconded by CHEATHAM**

Vote: 5-0-0 – **Approved** – Motion Passed

Aye Donnarumma, Cheatham, Messier, Kroll, Kelz

Nay None

Abstain None

- Meeting Minutes – 05/02/22  
Mikko Muro was misspelled on two occasions. Kolesnick was also misspelled.

**MOTION:**

To approve, as amended, meeting minutes of May 2, 2022.

**Made by MESSIER, Seconded by KELZ**

**Vote: 5-0-0 – Approved – Motion Passed**

Ayes	Donnarumma, Cheatham, Messier, Kroll, Kelz
Nays	0
Abstain	0

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- 206 Main Street South / First Congressional Church Non-Permitted Sign

The property has an existing sign, and this is an additional sign. ZEO Firlings is aware of the non-permitted sign and has contacted the owner. It will remain on the agenda.

- Commission Housekeeping

Cheatham wanted to note that the Commission's previous Clerk, Linda Leigh, was very important to the Commission. Her knowledge of legal aspects as well as her due diligence and eagerness to help were vital to the Commission and she will be greatly missed.

Commission briefly discussed the grant that the Town of Woodbury was awarded by the State of CT. At the last selectmen's meeting, bids for the work were approved and awarded to contractors DC Foster and Griswold & Sons. The work should start mid to late July, with the carpentry to be first and painting to follow in the fall. Project should be complete by approximately October. Donnarumma added that there might be a slight delay because of the state's process. There were questions about the status of the roof. Was it included in the grant? They will investigate if the roof approval was included in the grant.

Messier questioned the original approval of the application for 506 Main St. South and finds the building offensive to look at. He doesn't like the front but thinks the back of the building is fine. Kelz finds the exemption questionable. Messier also doesn't like the signs around town in the Historic District. He wants more traditional/vintage looking signage.

Cheatham wanted to point out that for windows, saving the old is always better than replacing with energy efficient windows, since they have more problems and thinks storm windows are the best option.

Messier suggested that the Commission have an in-depth discussion with Preservation of Connecticut, specifically on windows and roofs. Additionally, he would like to see someone on the Commission contact 6-10 other historic districts in the state to see how they are dealing with some of the same issues. He doesn't have time personally to reach out. Cheatham said she will try to set up a workshop on using new materials when renovating historic homes. They have done these workshops in the past.

Kroll pointed out that Cheatham and Fiftal should be acknowledged for their part in obtaining the state grant for the Parks & Recreation building. The building will still need work on the interior but fixing up the outside with the state grant will be phase one of the project.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

- None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:**

To adjourn meeting.

**Moved by KROLL, Seconded by KELZ**

**Vote: 5-0-0 – Approved – Motion Passed**

Aye Donnarumma, Cheatham, Messier, Kroll, Kelz

Nay None

Abstain None

Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.

RECEIVED & FILED  
IN WOODBURY, CT

This 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022  
at 3:00 o'clock PM  
[Signature]  
Town Clerk