

LAYTONSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Videoconference Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 16, 2020

Present:

Charles Hendricks, Chair
Andy Drouliskos
Michele Halvorson
Susan Phillips
Jill Ruspi

Absent:

Michele Shortley, Alternate

Attendees:

Mary Burke, Secretary
Charles and Kris Bradsher

Opening:

Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at 7:30. He noted that a quorum was present.

New Business:

The first order of business was to approve the minutes from the August 17 and October 19 meetings. All changes that had been suggested have been incorporated. Member Ruspi made a motion to approve the August minutes, Member Phillips seconded, and all approved. Member Halvorson made a motion to approve the October minutes, Member Ruspi seconded, and all approved.

Chair Hendricks opened the Public Hearing regarding Work Permit 05-20 at 7:34.

21408 Laytonsville Road: In summary, Charles and Kris Bradsher would like to remove an 11' x 16' wooden storage building that was damaged by a limb from a locust tree. They would like to install an 18' x 21' enclosed metal garage in a different location but still at the back of the lot. You may not be able to see it from the road. The suggested garage will be 20' from the nearest property line. The old shed will need to be removed prior to the installation of the new garage.

Obed Pellegrino of 21404 Laytonsville Road attempted to join the Zoom session but was not successful. Chair Hendricks called him on the phone to determine if there were any questions and left a voicemail message.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:58.

Member Phillips made a motion to approve the permit with the condition that the garage would not narrow the existing driveway. Member Drouliskos seconded and all approved.

Old Business:

21517 Laytonsville Road Update: In July of 2019, Samantha and Steve Marstaller received a work permit to move the driveway but didn't get the work done in the year of the permit. The purpose of moving the driveway is to help the large oak tree next to the driveway. At the Board of Appeals Hearing, the Board of Appeals asked that they consult with a certified arborist to see what, if any, impact there would be on the tree. This discussion will resume at the Board of Appeals Meeting in January 2021. There are 2 5' diameter trees in or near the neighboring Bataller-Phillips yard that the driveway could damage, and the arborist needs to take that into account.

Report on inquiries into environmental setting oversight by historic district commissions in neighboring communities: Chair Hendricks went online and looked at Rockville and Gaithersburg ordinances and determined that they were very similar to Laytonsville, although their guidelines exempted a lot of things.

Report on the virtual meeting of the Maryland Association of Historic Districts Commissions: Chair Hendricks represented Laytonsville at the annual meeting. He learned that they offer training for Historic District Commission members for a fee. Last year, Rockville and Gaithersburg partnered for this training, and Chair Hendricks asked if Laytonsville could join in.

Chair Hendricks has emailed the two directors from Rockville and Gaithersburg and anticipates that he will have more information to share with the HDC after more correspondence with them.

Miscellaneous: Chair Hendricks stated that the next HDC Meeting is December 14, 2020.

Member Ruspi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33. Member Drouliskos seconded and all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Burke