

Old Long Ridge Historic District Commission

City of Stamford

Draft Minutes of the Old Long Ridge Historic District Commission

January 7, 2013

Commissioners in Attendance: Marshall Millsap, Chairman
William Bretschger, Deputy Chairman
Lynn Drobbin, Clerk
Ted Graves, Commissioner
Tom Rice, Alternate Commissioner
Robert Robins, Alternate Commissioner

Public in attendance: Wesley Haines, Historic Preservation Consultant
Cheryl West

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by the Chairman.

- Marshall Millsap noted that in the past election, Stamford voters approved the formation of a city-wide Historic Preservation Advisory Commission and that Annie Taylor, a member of the Stamford Board of Representatives, was the sponsor of a draft ordinance for historic district review. The ordinance was drafted to correspond with the Certified Local Government (CLG) requirements. The Historic Neighborhood Preservation Program has offered to work with both the Commission and the Land Use Committee of the Board of Representatives on the substance of the ordinance. HNPP has also asked both the State Historic Preservation Office and the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation for their views. As coordination with the new Advisory Commission will be important, it was agreed that the Old Long Ridge Historic District Commission (OLRHDC) would have a chance to review the ordinance and also suggest measures to improve or strengthen it.
- Marshall brought up the possibility that the OLRHDC serve also as the new Commission for the City of Stamford though this is unlikely at present.
- There was a discussion of the responsibility for maintaining Stamford's CLG status and the City of Stamford's Land Use Commission's intent to set up the new Advisory Commission to support that. Bill Bretschger noted his concern that the OLRHDC has not focused on the CLG since it was awarded, and that he felt that the OLRHDC should set priorities of what needs to be accomplished, both in terms of maintaining the status and in terms of access to programs.
- Marshall Millsap agreed that OLRHDC should have a view on CLG-related programs. He pointed out, however, that responsibility for maintaining the status rests in the first instance with

the City of Stamford, not the OLRHDC. The Commission could publically encourage the City to maintain it, but only the City could apply and hold the designation.

- Marshall stated that he would circulate the draft ordinance and proposed that OLRHDC members could have a joint dialogue with the Land Use Committee. Marshall also noted that he was anticipating a review of the ordinance with Mary Donahue, Survey and Grants Director and Senior Architectural Historian for the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) of the CT Department of Economic and Community Development, also possibly with Helen Higgins, the Executive Director of the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, and also probably Valerie Rosenson, Counsel to the Land Use Committee.

The official meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Drobbin, Clerk

Date: April 5, 2013