

**MINUTES  
WINDSOR HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 1, 2019  
LUDLOW ROOM, TOWN HALL  
275 BROAD STREET, WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT**

**Present: Chairman Rubino, Commissioner Raney, Commissioner Reardon, Commissioner Yeich, Commissioner Dupont-Diehl. Commissioner Cassidy and Commissioner Hinckley were present but not seated.**

**Also Present:**           **Assistant Town Planner, Todd Sealy**  
                                  **1<sup>st</sup> Church of Windsor,**  
                                  **Ken Baranoski**  
                                  **Barry Budlong**  
                                  **Al Boehm**  
                                  **Homeowner, Kevin Doyle**

Chairman Rubino opened the meeting at 6:02

**I.       New Business**

**A.   New Member Welcome**

- Sarah Cassidy Appointment

The commission welcomed Sarah Cassidy to the commission. Chairman Rubino gave a brief introduction to the committee and the handbook.

**II.     Public Hearings for Certificate of Appropriateness**

- A.   Continued Hearing: 107 Palisado –Parking Lot lights, First Church of Windsor**  
Commissioner Rubino reviewed the details of the application and continued, which is to replace five parking lot lights in the lot adjacent to the church. Chairman Rubino asked the committee if they had the chance to see the installed light. The commissioners responded that they had an opportunity to see the light. Chairman Rubino reviewed the materials included in the agenda packets. Mr. Boehm stated that there was one document that was not included in the packets to which the commissioners stated they received in an email. Chairman Rubino asked whether the fixture was the L40 or the L80. There was a discussion regarding which fixture the applicants had selected. Mr. Budlong stated that the fixture had been approved by the Town. The Assistant Town planner, Mr. Sealy, stated that the cut sheet for the fixture was the L40 and the approval was that the lights meet the requirements of the regulations and the application was pending review by the historic district commission.  
Mr. Boehm continued to review the document showing the modifications to the fixture which detailed the shields and back plate. This was presented as the recommended final design, that the shields will be added to three sides and a back plate would be installed on one side. Chairman Rubino asked if this was a customized piece. Mr Boehm stated

that it was. Chairman Rubino then asked if a filter could be placed on the light. Mr. Budlong stated that they had asked the manufacture if they make filters or diffusers and the manufacturer stated that they do not. Chairman Rubino stated that the real issue with LED lights is the spectrum of color that they emit. The LEDS produce a blue/white light while the lights on the bridge have an amber glow which is more appropriate in this district. Mr. Budlong asked if they were to add a filter would it change the photometrics of the light. And would these new lights meet the town code? Commissioner Hinckley stated that the mock up light was a bright white lights and not in keeping with the lights in the neighborhood. She asked the applicants if they had researched into other manufacturers that produced yellow LED lights. Mr. Budlong stated that they had found a fixture that had yellow lights but that it was \$2500 per fixture. Commissioner Hinckley asked if they lowered the color temperature would it meet the lighting requirements. Mr. Sealy stated that the lighting regulations set uniform and consistent lighting levels depending on the lighting zone. There was a discussion between parking lots and street lighting. That the regulations do not get into street lighting but are more focused on site lighting. He stated that the color spectrums are determined by the color temperature. Going to a lower color temperature may have an effect on the lighting levels. Commissioner Hinckley asked if changing the wattage would have an effect on the color temperature. Mr. Sealy stated that the wattage would not have an effect on the color temperature. Chairman Rubino stated that the real issue with the LED lights is the color temperature that emits a blue/white light which catches your eye and adding a shield would be adding another factor which doesn't look correct. He stated that maybe a solution would be to put a piece of film over the lights to change the color. Ken Baranoski of First Palisado, replied that it would change the photometrics of the lights and they're not sure if it would qualify to meet the town's lighting requirements. Chairman Rubino asked how we could test the lights. Mr. Sealy stated that they could conduct tests with a light meter but ultimately a photometric plan would give the best indication of reality. Mr. Baranoski stated that the filters would change the photometrics and that the manufacturers would not have photometrics for a filter that was not their product. Chairman Rubino stated that he spoke with the manufacturer and the manufacturer stated that there were no alternatives they offered to these lights. He stated that these lights are permanent and that they will permanently change the way the neighborhood looks. A bright light like this would be a big adjustment and that they would like to see an alternative. Mr. Budlong stated that they have a responsibility to meet the lighting requirements so that if someone slips and falls and lawyers get involved and they find that the levels are lower than the standards, then they would have a problem. Chairman Rubino stated that the lights have to be effective but they also want them to be attractive. Commissioner Hinckley asked if they checked with other manufacturers. Mr. Budlong stated that they checked with other manufacturers and that they stopped making diffusers for LED lights. Chairman Rubino stated that since the lights do not get hot, that maybe a plastic filter could alter the spectrum of lights. Commissioner Dupont-Diehl asked what the consensus was on the availability of fixtures. Mr. Budlong stated that there aren't any manufacturers. Commissioner Hinckley stated that she called Connecticut lighting to see if there were other alternatives but that she couldn't get into the specifics with the manufacturer but she reiterated if they had searched for manufacturers. Mr. Budlong stated that they brought in a lighting consultant and that he recommended this fixture because it would meet their needs and they would provide the photometric information. Chairman Rubino asked if it exceeded

the photometric requirement, to where they could filter the light. Commissioner Hinckley asked how the materials will hold up relative to the lamp. Mr. Baranoski stated that they made it out of similar materials. There was some discussion on when the lights will come on and when they will be turned off. The applicants stated that they would come on at dusk and go off after church activities ceased for the day.

Mr. Sealy reviewed the photometric plan and the town requirements with the commission. Commissioner Dupont-Diehl asked what it on the application regarding the lights. Al Boehm stated that they are requested the lights with the modifications shown in the submitted documents. Commissioner Dupont-Diehl stated that that would be included in the motion, approval of the lights as presented to the commission. There was discussion on ways to change the color spectrum of the light. The applicants stated they would have to find a suitable material to change the color temperature and then contact the assistant Town Planner. Commissioner Dupont-Diehl asked the applicants if the lights they have in place now are meeting their needs for lighting the parking lot. The applicants stated that the lights were sufficiently lighting the parking lot. Homeowner Kevin Doyle stated that no one would complain if the parking lot was temporarily over lighted while the fixtures are sorted out. The commission agreed to allow the temporary lights to provide enough lighting for the safety. The commission then discussed solutions for changing the color temperature without causing glare or significantly reducing the light levels. The commission stated that they are willing to meet with the applicants whenever they developed a solution for changing the color temperature. Mr. Sealy stated that he would go out to test the levels once they have modified the fixture so that they would have sufficient evidence to make a determination on the light levels. He stated that they should be able to get a fairly good reading underneath the light and that we can make assumptions as to how the covers will affect the light levels from the center out.

**Motion: Commissioner Reardon made the motion to continue the public hearing for the Certificate of Appropriateness application for 107 Palisado Ave, Commissioner Dupont-Diehl seconded and it passed 5-0-0.**

III. Miscellaneous

- A. HDC Membership Review
- B. Outreach efforts
- C.

**Motion: Commissioner Reardon made the motion to table the rest of the agenda. Commissioner Dupont-Diehl seconded it and it passed 5-0-0**

IV. Adjournment

**Motion: Commissioner Reardon made a motion to adjourn at 7:04pm, Commissioner Dupont-Diehl seconded and it passed 5-0-0.**