

Town of Redding  
Historic Review Committee  
P.O. Box 1028  
Redding Center, Connecticut 06875-1028

MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, July 20, 2023  
6:30 PM – Via Zoom

Present: Raymond D’Angelo, Chairman; Regina O’Brien; Sherry Karraker; Matt Lecher (6:58).

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:53 seating Ms. Karraker for Mr. Lecher.

**I. Approval of Minutes, Special Meeting of September 1, 2022**

On the motion of Ms. O’Brien, and the second of Ms. Karraker, the committee voted unanimously to accept the minutes as written.

**II. Demolition Application – 331 Redding Road (Assessor’s Map and Lot 37 – 33).** Owner: Cynthia H. Meehl Rev. Trust, Cynthia H. Meehl Trustee. Request to demolish single-bay garage.

Ms. Pardee stated that she had visited the site with Stuart Reeve, PhD., and that he had raised no objection to the demolition of the garage. The committee looked at a photograph of the garage and briefly discussed the property.

Ms. O’Brien moved that the committee waive the demolition delay for the garage at 331 Redding Road. Ms. Karraker seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

**III. Demolition Application – 60 Newtown Turnpike (Assessor’s Map and Lot 38 – 27, Building 2 of 2), aka 50 Newtown Turnpike.** Owner Aquarion Water Company of CT, Shawna Salato, Real Estate Manager.

Ms. Salato was present to discuss the application. Mr. Lecher asked what the dwelling had been used for. Ms. Salato said that it had been a rental but that the tenant had been out of the house for some time and that Aquarion would like to tear the house down. She explained that the company prefers not to be in the business of managing rentals and that selling the house is not an option as the property it is on is Class 1 Watershed.

The Chairman reviewed a report from Bruce Nelson, Town Historian, recommending that the committee impose the full demolition delay.

The committee discussed the property, as well as other properties owned by Aquarion. Whether the house at 60 Newtown Turnpike can be considered historic was discussed with the committee returning to Mr. Nelson's report. Ms. O'Brien asked if Aquarion intended to demolish other houses that they own in town; Ms. Salato said there are no plans to demolish additional houses at this time. Ms. Salato was asked if their properties were used to house Aquarion employees; she said that most occupants of Aquarion houses were not employees of the company. The idea that Aquarion would tear down additional houses once long-time tenants moved out was discussed with the committee expressing concern for the future of Aquarion houses.

The committee asked Ms. Salato if she felt Aquarion would talk to the town about their overall plan for the houses in their ownership, and also whether they might be willing to speak to Preservation Connecticut. Ms. Salato said that she would bring the committee's concerns back to company management. There was a discussion of how such a meeting could be facilitated; Ms. Pardee said she would contact Preservation Connecticut.

Hearing no further discussion, the Chairman asked for a motion. Ms. Karraker moved that the committee impose the 180 demolition delay; Ms. O'Brien seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

As a last note, the committee mentioned the current state of the property at 60 Newtown Turnpike and requested that Aquarion consider mowing the lawn and repairing a broken window.

#### **IV. Chairman's report.**

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

On the motion of Ms. Karraker, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Submitted by,

Aimee Pardee

