

WEST TISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: July 5, 2023
Meeting at 5:30 PM

Attending: Sean Conley, Nancy Dole, Charlie Kernick, Carol Sarason, Anne Fisher

Absent: Mark Mazer, Josh Gothard

Also Attending: Clark Goff, Dan Waters, Susan Wasserman, Chuck Hodgson, Richard Knabel

CONA for 671 Edgartown Road, Map 31 Lot 12 for wood trellis to cover hvac equipment.

Howes House Committee contacted our Chair, Sean Conley and asked us to detail the issues we have with the design for the plan they presented on June 21, 2023 at our combined HDC/HHC meeting at Town Hall, and to make suggestions as to what we would find appropriate.

We opened the meeting to everyone present to discuss their request. After much discussion our members decided it was appropriate to tell the HHC that our concern is that the plans we have been shown do not meet our published design guidelines, which are followed by the HDC when making determinations as to the appropriateness of an applicant's proposal to the character of the existing historic district. Specifically, the first and foremost guidelines concerning Massing and Size do not appear to have been considered by the HHC when they designed a building basically from the inside out, to meet their needs, and found themselves with a square footage requirement that was quite large. While there are other guidelines the various proposed designs may not meet, such as the double dormer design on the side facing Brandy Brow, and debatably the large expanse of glass facing the Field Gallery, until the first two are addressed by the HHC there's not much point in commenting about those design elements. They are secondary to the main issue of inappropriate Massing and Size, and understandably not something the HHC feels they can address by decreasing the square footage and making the addition secondary and in character with the original structure.

We talked at length about what we could say that would be helpful to them, and wrote a draft of our response. We decided to meet again on July 10 to finalize and send a letter explaining our position of non support for the designs we have seen to date.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Dole, Secretary

Approved on

July 31, 2023