



**AGENDA  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
October 23, 2024  
7:00 PM - Council Chambers**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chairperson Gwozdz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Clerk Smyth called the roll.

Present for the meeting were Vice Chairperson Raymond Gwozdz, Clerk Nancy Smyth, Commissioner Marie Troiano, Commissioner Lynda Laureano.

Also Present from the Town of Enfield:  
Stephen Hiney, Assistant Town Planner  
Alexis Nai, Recording Secretary

**FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Vice Chairperson Gwozdz read the fire evacuation announcement.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. September 25, 2024 – Commissioner Laureano motioned to approve the minutes of September 25, 2024, as amended. Commissioner Smyth seconded the motion. All were in favor. 4-0-0. The minutes were approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**READING OF LEGAL NOTICE**

Clerk Smyth Read the Legal Notice

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**B. HDC# 496 – 1162 Enfield Street** – Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for installation of roof-mounted solar panels; Trio Solar, Applicant; Abdelaziz Yousseff, Owner; Map 20/Lot 143; HR-33 Zone

Commissioner Marie Troiano motioned to reopen HDC#496-1162 Enfield Street;  
Commissioner Smyth seconded the motion. All were in favor

**Vote: 4-0-0**

John Scott spoke on behalf of the application. He noted the application was modified and resubmitted removing the seven panels on the front of the property. Commissioner Gwozdz questioned if the rectangles in red were removed from the application.

Mr. Scott confirmed the rectangles in red are obstructions.

Commissioner Troiano noted the solar panels on the garage still face Enfield Street.

Ms. Driver was supposed to bring pictures to show another property whose solar panels 1290 are showing at Enfield Street. The Garage is not part of the historic structure.

Commissioner Troiano stated these solar panels can be seen from Enfield Street. The other structure, you have to be coming up from the side street to see them.

The commission confirmed that 1290 Enfield Street you can see the solar panels at a certain angle, but not straight on.

Commissioner Laureano noted there seems to be a lot of shrubbery that was removed from the property.

Commissioner Gwozdz questioned why there are no panels facing west.

Mr. Scott noted part of the wood is shake shingle and part is regular shingle.

Commissioner Laureano reiterated that part of the roof is structurally sound while the other is not.

Mr. Scott confirmed that was correct.

The Commission questioned why panels could not be placed on shake shingles.

Mr. Scott noted putting solar panels directly on top of shake shingles (which are highly flammable) was a known fire hazard and not recommended.

The commission questioned asked how detrimental the tiles on the garage were.

Mr. Scott noted it would mean a bill with Eversource, so those few extra panels are necessary.

Commissioner Laureano suggested having that section be re-roofed.

Mr. Scott noted there is a cost associated with it.

Commissioner Laureano stated the savings of having it shingled would likely offset not having the panels on the garage at all.

Commissioner Laureano would like to have screening arborvitae to screen the panel. Mr. Scott stated he is not sure if Eversource would allow it.

Commissioner Laureano noted that screening wouldn't block the utility box, it would be a few

feet away just to screen it from the road. It would need to be planted at least three feet tall at planting and 3-4 feet wide and kept up and trimmed to 6ft tall mature. The width of the buffer 5-6 feet as a condition. This screening would not block the line of site from Eversource.

Commissioner Troiano noted the height of the garage is so low the solar panels are going to be seen as is.

Vice Chairperson Gwozdz opened the hearing to the public.

Shelly Lamprom, 2 Hathaway Rd. Enfield CT spoke against the application. She presented the commission a packet showing the home before the current applicant moved in and after the applicant moved in. She believes that 1162 Enfield Street has already been altered significantly since the current homeowner has moved in and that solar panels will alter the character of the house even further. She questioned how she can voice her concerns about the changes to the home that are outside of the compliance as to what has been approved.

Commissioner Gwozdz suggested contacting the Zoning enforcement office for items that are outside this specific application.

Mr. Scott discussed potentially regrouping the panels on other sides of the garage which may not be feasible. He does not think the South side is possible. He discussed the potential to place on the flat part of the roof.

The commission questioned if the panels would still be visible with the railing. The Commission noted the scenarios are not overly specific.

Commissioner Gwozdz does not want to table the commission application again without any specifics. There are too many unknowns without a specific application that meets the solar panel requirements in the Historic District.

Commissioner Smyth made a motion to close hearing **HDC# 496 – 1162 Enfield Street –** Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for installation of roof-mounted solar panels; Trio Solar, Applicant; Abdelaziz Yousseff, Owner; Map 20/Lot 143; HR-33 Zone, Commissioner Troiano seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Hearing was closed.  
**Vote: 4-0-0**

Commissioner Laureano motioned to approve **HDC# 496 – 1162 Enfield Street –** Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for installation of roof-mounted solar panels; Trio Solar, Applicant; Abdelaziz Yousseff, Owner; Map 20/Lot 143; HR-33 Zone. Commissioner Smyth seconded the motion.

Commissioner Smyth noted that there is no certainty with the proposal as is. If it is approved, the applicant can do what they want.

Commissioner Troiano noted the solar panels as proposed does affect the character and aesthetic of the home. If there was a way to find a location to make them less visible, that would be acceptable.

Commissioner Laureano agreed having the panels less visible and does not want to set the precedent to continuously alter the house. While she believes in renewable energy, she would like to see an application where the panels are not visible.

Commissioner Gwozdz noted this is a very important property in the district, the panels are directly facing Enfield Street and is a major impact to the district. It substantially impacts the district. It does not meet the guidelines. The way the application is currently not appropriate to the district.

The application was not approved.

**Vote: 0-4-0**

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

#### **PLANNING STAFF REPORT**

Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup> Cheshire Town Hall there is a regional Commissioner district training at 6 PM.

#### **ENFORCEMENT REPORTS**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Smyth motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Troiano seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting stood adjourned at 7:50 PM.

**Vote: 4-0-0**

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**Note: Next Historic District Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024 at 7PM**

*By: Richard Tatoian, Chairman*

*Questions on agenda may be directed to the Planning Office 860-253-6355. Files are available for review on the website: <https://enfieldct.portal.civicclerk.com/>*