

# THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

DATE: NOVEMBER 29, 2017

NUMBER: 20-2017

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR 255 STIRLING AVENUE, BLOCK 6701, LOTS 12 AND 17 TO ADD A FRONT PORCH AND REMOVE A CHIMNEY**

**WHEREAS**, Barry E. Hill (“Applicant”) has applied to the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Orange Township for approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for work to be done on his property located at 255 Stirling Avenue, Orange, New Jersey, and designated as Block 6701, Lots 12 and 17 on the Tax Map of the City of Orange Township; and

**WHEREAS**, the Application consisting of the Application itself signed by Barry E. Hill, a survey prepared by Richard S. Zinn or Brunswick West, Inc. dated Nov. 1, 2017, a drawing prepared by AAVCON, LLC of Parsippany, N.J. dated Nov. 1, 2017 consisting of one sheet designated as A-1, and several photographs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission received and reviewed the Application and attachments as well as the materials described above from the Applicant, as well as any memoranda from the Zoning Officer, Department of Public Works, Planner, Engineer, Building department or Construction Code Official, Fire Department, Police Department, and any appropriate division or officer thereof, and any other agencies and provided an opportunity for comments from the public and interested parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Application was the subject of public notice by virtue of the publication of the agenda of the Historic Preservation Commission, and all members of the Commission voting on this resolution have attended the public hearing(s) or have certified that they have read the transcript(s) or listened to the tape(s) of the hearing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-10.2; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission reviewed the Application and other materials and is granting approval in reliance upon the representations made in the Application, survey, drawing, plans, notes on the plans and testimony in the public presentation by the Applicant and/or the Applicant’s professional(s) and contractor David Pali; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission, after carefully considering the evidence submitted by the Applicant, its own professionals and City’s professional staff, and the general public, makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

## **I. FINDINGS OF FACT**

- A. The Applicant is Barry E. Hill who is also the owner of the property at 255 Stirling Avenue, City of Orange Township, which is also Block 6701, Lots 12 and 17 on the Tax Map. The existing use of the property is residential which is a permitted use. The Applicant seeks to take down a chimney which is not visible from any street, to repair the slate roof unless there is too much damage, to add a front porch in accordance with the plan prepared by AAVCON, LLC which shows the front and side elevations of the proposed new front porch, together with photographs and a survey, and to add a new concrete walkway, new front steps and a very short retaining wall of approximately 22.5 inches.

- B. The purpose of the new front porch which is the major focus of this Application is to conform this property to neighboring properties where large front porches are common. Photographs of 263 Stirling Avenue and 259 Stirling Avenue were included and both have attractive front porches.
- C. The porch will be ten feet deep, and will be framed out to each side of the house, in other words, the full width of the house front elevation. Pressure treated lumber will be used. The steps will be wood, not masonry. The decking will be Trex or a similar product that will be resilient.
- D. Based upon the representations of the Applicant's contractor, David Pali, who testified before the Commission, he will repair any damage and keep the slate roof intact, unless it is too badly damaged, in which case he will return to the Commission; he will add the front porch per the plan submitted, he will add/reconstruct a retaining wall of approximately 22.5 inches in height, and he will take down the chimney in the rear of the structure which is non-functional and which is not visible from any street.
- E. Based upon the Application and all materials submitted as described above, and the contractor's testimony as the owner's representative, the Commission approved the Application and agreed that a Certificate of Appropriateness for the project should issue.

## II. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- A. The Commission first finds that the Applicant has demonstrated by virtue of the Application and accompanying materials that the Application is warranted, that the slate roof will be repaired with like kind materials, that the new front porch, new concrete sidewalk and new steps will not impair the historic significance of the district, will not encroach upon nearby properties within the historic district, and will not cause substantial detriment to the public good and will not substantially impair the intent and the purpose of the zone plan and zoning ordinance, and that the same are consistent with the Master Plan and ordinance establishing the Commission, historic districts, map and regulations.
- B. The Commission concludes that the benefits of granting the Certificate of Appropriateness substantially outweigh any detriments.
- C. Therefore, it is appropriate and that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby APPROVES the issuance of a CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS to the Applicant.

## III. CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

- A. **AS A CONDITION OF THIS APPROVAL, THE CONSTRUCTION MUST PROCEED IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLANS AND/OR REPRESENTATIONS MADE IN THE TESTIMONY SUBMITTED, AS THOSE PLANS AND THE REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY THE APPLICANT IN HIS, HER OR ITS TESTIMONY ARE WHAT IS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION. SHOULD ANY CHANGE BE MADE INCONSISTENT WITH THE PLANS OR TESTIMONY, THE APPLICANT MUST RETURN TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION FOR AN AMENDED CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS. "FIELD ADJUSTMENTS" THAT RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND A STOP WORK ORDER WILL ISSUE, NECESSITATING A RETURN APPEARANCE BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY MEETING. ANY DELAY OR DELAY DAMAGES ASSERTED BY THE CONTRACTOR OR OTHERS WILL BE STRICTLY THE FAULT OF THE OWNER, APPLICANT AND/OR CONTRACTOR FOR NOT PROPERLY EXECUTING THE PLANS OR ABIDING THE TESTIMONY SUBMITTED WHICH RESULTED IN THIS APPROVAL.**
- B. **PLANS:** All revisions to the Application as described and the papers submitted, including plans and drawings (if any) after the first submission must be properly identified on subsequent submissions and submitted for review and become part of the file for this property at the City of Orange Township.

- C. UTILITIES, PROTECT ADJACENT CONSTRUCTION, AND INHABITANTS/NEIGHBORS: Comply with all applicable requirements of governing authorities including, but not limited to, public utilities (provide mark-out and 24 hour notification of any discontinuity of utility services with owner). Provide temporary facilities, service utilities, and protection as required to safely execute all work.
- D. CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS: Contractor shall be responsible to remove and legally dispose of all materials from the job site. A permit may be required to place a unit for storage of debris at the job site or in the street. This is the Applicant's responsibility to obtain.
- E. PLANS AND DRAWINGS: The contractor shall prepare and maintain a complete set of record construction drawings (if any) indicating all actual work, modification and revisions to the work delineated on the construction drawings as well as any concealed construction work. Include any other information which would be helpful to the owner, at the site.
- F. SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION: At project closeout, contractor shall procure final certificate of occupancy upon completion of the project and forward same to the owner. Contractor shall clean premises, test applicable systems, and leave ready for occupancy.
- G. PERMITS: The Applicant shall be responsible for obtaining and paying for all the required permits, inspections, etc.
- H. PROJECT COMPLETION: Upon FULL completion of the project, architect and/or contractor to submit certificate of occupancy or continued certificate of occupancy approved by the Building Department to the owner.
- I. CODE AND STANDARDS COMPLIANCE: All work, materials, and equipment shall meet the latest requirements of all applicable state & local building codes, regulations, the requirements of the authorities having jurisdiction, and the standards of the Secretary of Interior for Rehabilitation. Where applicable, comply with all requirements of the NJUCC Barrier Free Subcode and/or Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City of Orange Township Historic Preservation Commission that the Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the work described in the Application and, including any photographs, is approved and granted subject to the foregoing conditions in Section II. A-I, hereof, and the following additional conditions, where applicable:

**IV. PLAN REVISIONS AND SUBMISSIONS**

Prior to signing the final site plan approval, Applicant shall submit any requested revisions to the plans or otherwise provide studies, plans, or documents, as follows:

- A. The Applicant should address all of the findings, if any, in the comments and reports made by the City Engineer, Police Department, Fire Department, and any other relevant departments and agencies, in addition to the Department of Public Works and all of its officers and divisions, if any.
- B. Pursuant to City of Orange Township municipal ordinance, prior to the issuance of building permits, the Applicant shall have installed or shall have furnished any required performance guarantees for the ultimate installation of all streets, street signs, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, street lighting, shade trees, storm drains, sanitary sewerage and utilities, monuments, and/or top soil required, if any, by this approved work.

- C. The Applicant shall ensure that its general contractor and subcontractors do not damage the roadway pavement, curbing, sidewalk, grass strip between the curb and the sidewalk or any other improvements in the public right of way, whether on the public right of way or the privately owned property including but not limited to slate or bluestone sidewalks and walk ways. A note shall be added to the plans stating, "Any damage to the right of way including the sidewalk must be repaired / installed to equal standards."
- D. OTHER APPROVALS. Prior to signing the final site plan, Applicant shall submit any requested revisions to the plans or otherwise shall obtain and comply with the requirements of all outside agencies from which approval is required, and it shall be Applicant's duty to determine whether such further approvals are required, including but not limited to:
  1. Final approval of the Essex County Planning Board, if required.
  2. Final approval from and comply with the requirements of the Union County Soil Conservation Service, if required.
  3. All other necessary approvals from applicable county, state, regional and federal agencies.

**V. TAXES**

Applicant shall pay any outstanding real estate taxes and assessments within fourteen days of this Resolution and provide proof by an official search for municipal liens.

**VI. FEES**

Applicant will post an escrow fee to cover and pay for the professionals' review of this application and preparation of this Resolution in accordance with City ordinance. Applicant will pay all outstanding escrow and application fees within fourteen days of the Resolution and receipt by Applicant of the bills for such charges including those that arrive after the Resolution is memorialized. No construction permits will be issued until this section is satisfied.

**VII. INSPECTION FEES**

Applicant shall post inspection fees, in an amount to be determined by the City Engineer, before any improvements are installed, if and as required by the City.

**VII. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

A. Applicant will post a notice of decision in the Official Paper and provide an affidavit of publication to the Planning and Development Department.

**IX. SATISFACTION OF CONDITIONS**

This approval of the Certificate of Appropriateness shall not be deemed satisfied and construction permits shall not be issued until such time as the Director of the Department of Public Works and/or his designee and/or the City Engineer finds that all conditions of approval have been satisfied.

**ROLL CALL ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE:**

Keith Carrol (2d)	<u>          x          </u>	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>
Kathy Dowd	<u>          x          </u>	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>
Jody Leight	<u>          x          </u>	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>
Brandon Matthews	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>
Bruce Meyer (moved)	<u>          x          </u>	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>
Janice Morrell	<u>          x          </u>	<u>                                </u>	<u>                                </u>

Yolanda Silverio	_____	_____	x
Troy Simmons	x	_____	_____
Abdiel Velez	_____	_____	x
Karen Wells (moved)	_____	_____	x

MEMORIALIZATION:

This Resolution adopted this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017 memorializes the action taken at a meeting of the City of Orange Township Historic Preservation Commission with the roll call vote on the memorialization as follows:

	Yes	No	Absent
Keith Carrol	_____	_____	_____
Kathy Dowd	_____	_____	_____
Jody Leight	_____	_____	_____
Brandon Matthews	_____	_____	_____
Bruce Meyer	_____	_____	_____
Janice Morrell	_____	_____	_____
Yolanda Silverio	_____	_____	_____
Troy Simmons	_____	_____	_____
Abdiel Velez	_____	_____	_____
Karen Wells	_____	_____	_____

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution of the City of Orange Township Historic Preservation Commission memorialized on \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

Adopted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Joyce L. Lanier  
 Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Karen Wells  
 Chair