

Minutes of the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission

Monday, September 29, 2014, 6:00 PM, McCusker Center, 2nd Fl., 344 Broadway, Cambridge

Commission Members present: Nancy Goodwin, *Chair*; Monika Pauli, Margaret McMahon, Sue-Ellen Myers, *Alternates*

Commission Members absent: Tony Hsiao, *Vice Chair*, Charles Redmon and Lestra Litchfield, *Members*;

Staff present: Samantha Paull

Members of the Public: See attached list.

Ms. Nancy Goodwin, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. She gave an overview and discussed procedures. Ms. Goodwin addressed that all alternates present were voting.

MC-4574: 27 Maple Ave, Unit #2, by Maya Jasanoff. Install new skylights.

Ms. Samantha Paull gave a brief overview of the property and outlined the proposal.

Ms. Goodwin asked if the applicant had anything to say. Ms. Maya Jasanoff, the owner, said that this room is a small study, as she worked from home frequently. The room was dark and does not have much daylight during the day. She wanted to make this a livable, workable space and increase the light. There were dormers added before she moved in to the property. The skylight is as far back from the street as possible but integrated into the room. Ms. Jasanoff showed the interior proposed rendering. The proposed skylights would line up vertically versus two side by side to minimize impact and set back as far as possible from the roof.

Ms. Goodwin asked how far the skylight would stick out from the roof. Ms. Jasanoff referred to the application packet, but apologized that it wasn't explicit. The old oak tree shades the house in the spring and summer. In the winter, her photo showed the house with most visibility. The neighboring structure's existing skylights stick out and she noted her skylights will be minimal profile and lower than the neighboring structure.

Ms. McMahon, this is the only room you can work in? Ms. Jasanoff, yes, the back room is a master and this is the only room she could work in. The master bedroom is in the back, there is a room in the middle then there is this office space.

Ms. Goodwin asked if she could find the dimensions. Ms. Jasanoff she'd try to look at googling it.

Ms. Pauli asked if they would be joined or how would you install the two. Ms. Jasanoff said she wanted them to be water tight and have enough space for flashing. Ms. Pauli asked what the color of the frame is. Ms. Jasanoff responded that she wanted to do a graphite color. Also helpful for solar heating as it is south facing. The renovation wasn't great. So the heat loss is bad as it doesn't seem there is a lot of insulation.

Ms. McMahon noted that the proposal seems integrated. Ms. Pauli said yes better than side by side and almost appears as a window. Ms. McMahon said the plan and explanation and set back is helpful and the skylights would have minimal impact. Ms. Pauli suggested she ask for a sketch that shows actual skylights and spacing before cutting hole.

Ms. McMahon made a motion to approve the application as submitted. Ms. Pauli seconded. The motion was approved 4-0.

Minutes

Ms. Myers had minor amendments. Ms. McMahon made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Ms. Myers seconded. The motion was approved 4-0.

Ms. McMahon made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pauli seconded. The motion was approved 4-0 and adjourned at 6:29pm.