



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
Historic District Commission

*William Childress, Chairman
Barbara Harms, Vice Chair
Alan Cantor, Secretary*

www.oldsaybrookct.gov
302 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
860-395-3131

*Diane Aldi DePaola
Laura Gray
Alternate Members
Richard Peters
Paul Knierim
Erin Sliva*

**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
HYBRID MEETING
Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall 2nd floor conference room
302 Main Street, Old Saybrook**

Public Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98163391842?pwd=YUJOVmNBVEtwNm8zT2hiT0Q3R1FTdz09>

Meeting ID: 981 6339 1842 Meeting Passcode: 302302

Teleconference Dial-In: (929) 436-2866

One Tap Mobile: <tel://9294362866,,98163391842#>

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair, Barbara Harms called the meeting to order at 6:01pm

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Barbara Harms, Vice Chair; Alan Cantor, Secretary; Laura Gray; Erin Sliva; Paul Knierim (joined the meeting at 6:10pm)

Absent: William Childress, Chairman; Diane Aldi DePaola; Richard Peters

Staff: Krista May, Recording Clerk

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Minutes** – September 19, 2023

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes of September 19, 2023 as presented;
Made by: A Cantor; **Seconded by:** B. Harms; **In Favor:** A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, E. Sliva; **Opposed:** None; **Abstained:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

B. Correspondence

Old Saybrook Historical Society Membership Appeal will be given to Lynette Wacker to handle on behalf of the HDC. The latest issue of CT Preservation Connection magazine was presented.

C. Committee, Representative and Staff Reports

None

D. 2024 Meeting Calendar

There was a discussion about keeping the meeting on a Tuesday.

MOTION to approve the 2024 meeting calendar as presented; **Made by:** P. Knierim; **Seconded by:** L. Gray; **In Favor:** A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, P. Knierim, E. Sliva
Opposed: None; **Abstained:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

E. Election of Officers

A quorum is required for Election of Officers and this is met so members can proceed.

Nomination made for William Childress to be elected Chair of Historic District Commission.

MOTION to approve William Childress as Chair of HDC; **Made by:** A. Cantor; **Seconded by:** L. Gray; **In Favor:** A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, P. Knierim, E. Sliva
Opposed: None; **Abstained:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Nomination made for Barbara Harms to be elected Vice Chair of Historic District Commission.

MOTION to approve Barbara Harms as Vice-Chair of HDC; **Made by:** L. Gray; **Seconded by:** A. Cantor; **In Favor:** A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, P. Knierim, E. Sliva
Opposed: None; **Abstained:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

Nomination made for Alan Cantor to be elected Secretary of Historic District Commission.

MOTION to approve Alan Cantor as Secretary of HDC; **Made by:** B. Harms
Seconded by: L. Gray; **In Favor:** A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, P. Knierim, E. Sliva
Opposed: None; **Abstained:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Erin Sliva gave an update on the Sheffield Street Ghost Sign. The sign will include the backstory, historical images to explain the years and layers of the sign and details of the restoration project. Next steps include finalizing images, decide on verbiage and look at other town signs for guidance on word count, font size and layout specifics.

Laura Gray asked if the Commission will revisit the Preservation Plan. B. Harms said this will happen in 2024 as well as a workshop from the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

Possible future projects were discussed. B. Harms spoke about discussing priorities with OS Historical Society should an historic property become threatened. Awareness should be raised about the history of Old Saybrook and its many historic homes and buildings. Alan Cantor told members about a walking tour leaflet that will be published in January by the Historical Society.

L. Gray spoke about the Silvester Chalker House (1816) located opposite OS High School Playing Fields. Developers are exploring the commercial property. At the moment, the HDC only has jurisdiction in North Cove, but should the Commission have a bigger picture with regard to preservation initiatives throughout the town?

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting of December 19, 2023 at 6:30 pm until the next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm, Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room. **Made by:** B. Harms; **Seconded by:** A. Cantor; **In Favor:** A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, P. Knierim, E. Sliva ; **Opposed:** None; **Abstained:** None; **APPROVED:** 5-0-0.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED
HYBRID MEETING
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.
Town Hall 2nd floor conference room
302 Main Street

Check our website for dial in information
and additional meeting documents.

[Historic District Commission web page](#)