

Town of Canaan
Historic District Study Committee

Monday, September 22, 2025, 3:30 PM
The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society
44 Railroad St., Falls Village, CT 06031

Persons present: Judy Jacobs, Cheryl Aeschliman, Caitlin Jenkins, Bill Beebe, Richard Berzine,
Falls Village Zoning Officer, Janell Mullen.

Meeting was called to order at 3:32 by Judy Jacobs, chair.

No alternates were seated.

There were no public comments.

Berzine made a motion to accept the previous minutes with no additions or corrections. Second,
Beebe.

There were no new communications.

Judy was informed by Dave Barger that the town has agreed to pay for new Historic District signage.
Judy has contacted Giordano Signs in Torrington produce new signs, since GHI Signs in Canaan is
closing. They have not responded back as of this meeting.

Janell has contacted the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to find out if funding is available to
help us set up our local Historic Commission and found that they do not fund this process, but funds are
available when the local Commission is set in place by the town. We are currently at the position in the
process where we have to present the Falls Village Historic District Report to the Connecticut
Historical Commission and the town's Planning and Zoning Commission. We discussed changes we
would like to make in the wording of the proposed regulations on page 9 of the Draft Report Janell
prepared in 2023. We decided that we would like to soften the language of the regulations to make
them more palatable to the citizens with homes in the district. Also discussed was the need to have an
approachable book on architectural styles available for homeowners as well as the house studies that
we already have on file. Janell is going to review and re-work the regulation language and make a new
procedural flow chart for us to use in establishing the Commission. We hope to send the Report after
the new year.

We spent some time discussing the planned demolition of the Lanier house by the current homeowner
Jessie Davidson. Caitlin and Janell will work on a letter to Davidson to see if something might be done
to help prevent this from happening.

Janell is planning to attend our October meeting

Next meeting will be October 20, 2025, 4:00, at the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society Depot.

Motion to adjourn was made at 5:30 by Beebe. Second Berzine. Unanimous.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Aeschliman, Recording Secretary