



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Historic District Commission**

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

[www.oldsaybrookct.gov](http://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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

<p><b>MOTION</b> to approve the meeting minutes of September 19, 2023 as presented; <b>Made by:</b> A Cantor; <b>Seconded by:</b> B. Harms; <b>In Favor:</b> A. Cantor, B. Harms, L. Gray, E. Sliva; <b>Opposed:</b> None; <b>Abstained:</b> None; <b>APPROVED:</b> 4-0-0.</p>
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**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 2<sup>nd</sup> floor conference room**  
**302 Main Street**

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

[Historic District Commission web page](#)