



Town of Bristol, Rhode Island

Historic District Commission

10 Court Street
Bristol, RI 02809
www.bristolri.gov
401-253-7000

HDC Site Visit May 1, 2026

Minutes

8 Constitution St, Bristol, RI 02809

Meeting Brought to Order 9:00 AM

Members Attending:

Oryann Lima, Chair

John Allen, Vice-Chair

Susan Church, Member

Robert Page, 1st Alternate, Voting as Member

Robert Camara, 2nd Alternate, voting as Member

Attending:

Al Rego, Attorney for Applicant

David Marks, Bristol Town Solicitor

Andrew Teitz, Bristol Town Solicitor

Peter Dyer, Applicant and Contractor

Bob Holt, Neighbor

Robin Allister, Neighbor

Brian Clark, Resident

Meeting Brought to Order 9:00 AM at 8 Constitution St, Bristol, RI

Application 26-26 – Matter on the agenda is a door on the south elevation for garage. Project monitor assigned is Christopher Ponder, no in attendance

Commissioners in attendance reviewed the property line. Garage is within one to two feet of the south lot line. The sliding door being applied for was installed on back of garage, and was not in previously approved plan set or presentation shown to HDC. A fee will be charged for work without a certificate of appropriateness.

Applicant stated that door was added for light in garage building, which will be used for a weight room.

Applicant installed door without returning to HDC for approval. However, a similar door was approved for rear of home under a previous application.

As is standard procedure, commissioners approached the door as if it had not been installed and this was a new application.

Vice Chair Allen did not feel door is appropriate for the garage and would not vote to approve, feels that there should be a window.

Member Page agreed with Vice-Chair Allen.

Member Church stated that she did not like the door, but noted its lesser importance because it was on the rear of the garage.

Member Camara did not find the door to be appropriate and would not approve.

Chair Lima did not feel the door would be appropriate.

Public Comment ensued after discussion.

Bob Holt, neighbor, noted he owned two houses next door. He stated he does not like the entire project.

Robin Allister, of 5 Thames St, stated that they were not in favor of the door. Ms. Allister also objected to the presence of Brian Clark, who sits on the Bristol Planning Board, at the site visit as a resident. Ms. Allister also stated that the HDC should be considering the building code in its decision, which she stated this door did not meet due to proximity to the property line.

At this point, Solicitor Teitz noted that while Mr. Clark was on the Planning Board, that board had no jurisdiction over the site and was in attendance as a member of the Public. There is no conflict in this regard.

A motion was Made by Robert Page:
Seconded by Vice-Chair Allen

To Deny installation of door as it is not fitting for the historic district as constructed.

Secretary of Interior Standards #9 and #10

Members noted that while similar doors are more appropriate for a modern addition, it is not for an existing garage.

Member Church was amenable to the door as it was not visible to the street, and had lost its historic character.

Member Page noted that the door is visible from the waterfront, which is considered the same as street frontage for HDC purposes, and neighbor's property.

A vote was taken after this discussion

Voting in Favor of Denial: Lima, Allen, Church, Page, Camara

Voting in Opposition to Denial: None

Motion passes Unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 AM.