Jacqueline 'a. Salame, AIA Chairperson July 2021

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Robert R. Brown Vice Chairperson

Kevin G. Archer, P.E.

Elise DeSousa

Rosemary Erb-Fawcett

Harold B. Proudfoot

Dear Property Owner:

Thank you for owning a property in the Brookfield Historic District and helping to preserve the historic character of Brookfield.

All of Brookfield is very proud of its Historic District, which is a true treasure and a valuable asset to both Brookfield and the State of Connecticut. State and national studies have repeatedly shown that real estate values are traditionally higher within an historic district. To see the most recent study on the economic impact of historic districts, and much other valuable information, visit the State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO) website at <a href="https://www.CultureAndTourism.org">www.CultureAndTourism.org</a>.

In 1973, the State of Connecticut and the Town of Brookfield officially designated the Brookfield Historic District and appointed the Brookfield Historic District Commission. Additionally, in 1991 many of the properties located within the District were listed on the National Register of Historic Places and all properties were listed on the Connecticut State Register of Historic Places.

According to state statute, the intent of the Commission is to "promote the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the public through the preservation and protection of the distinctive characteristics of buildings and places associated with the history of or indicative of a period or style of architecture of the municipality, of the state or of the nation." Accordingly, the mission of the Commission is to preserve the unique historic character of the Historic District and to assist and advise property owners with alterations to the exterior of properties located with the boundaries of the Historic District.

The Commission uses the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties to determine the appropriateness of any proposed alteration to a property located within the Historic District. Information on the Secretary of the Interior's Standards is available on the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm.

The Commission will consider the historical and architectural value and significance, architectural style, scale, design, arrangement and the relationship to the style and features of other buildings and structures in the immediate neighborhood. The Commission will also consider details such as the type, style, texture and materials of roofing, siding, windows, doors, light fixtures, signs, above ground utility structures and site features.

The Brookfield Historic District Commission looks forward to working with you in retaining the beautiful appearance and historic significance of the District. In doing so, it is important that proper procedures are followed regarding changes to any property located within the District. Attached are general outlines of the

approval process for making alterations to a property and of the responsibilities of property owner in the District.

The Commission would like to keep in touch with you about happenings within the District. Please send your contact information to the Commission's email address:

<u>HistoricDistrict@BrookfieldCT.gov</u>

Your information will not be shared with any other group.

Sincerely,

**Brookfield Historic District Commission** 

## **Additional Information:**

- Tax Credits & Grants: Refer to State Historic Preservation Office's website <a href="www.cultureandtourism.org">www.cultureandtourism.org</a> and Connecticut Trust for Preservation website <a href="www.cutrust.org">www.cutrust.org</a>.
- Plaques: State and National Register of Historic places plaques are available for purchase from the State
  Historic Preservation office. The Addition of a plaque does not require approval from the Historic District
  Commission.
- The Commission meets the first Thursday of the month in Room 129 at Brookfield Town Hall. Please direct your questions or concerns to <a href="https://district@BrookfieldCT.gov"><u>HistoricDistrict@BrookfieldCT.gov</u></a>