

Somersworth Historic District Commission

Somersworth, New Hampshire

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday, 26 June 2013

Adopted as amended at HDC meeting on 08/28/2013

Members present: George Poulin, Chair; Madeline DeSantis; Coty Donohue, City Councilor; Albert Marotta; Tim Metivier, City Code and Health Office; Julie Rowe, Alternate; Pius Charles Murray, Alternate

Members absent: Beth Poulin; Arthur Hendrickson; Sherie Dinger

Petitioners present: John Pay and his son Brian Pay for 123 Main Street; Robert and Lucey Couture for 37 Maple Street; Keith Adams for 22 Grove Street; and Mark Bernier for 89 Prospect Street

Call to order: At 7:04 P.M. by the Chair

Approval of minutes of previous meeting: Motion to table approval of minutes of previous meeting made by Ms. DeSantis, and seconded by Councilor Donohue. Motion passed unanimously.

Projects of Minimal Impact: The Chair reported no reports of projects of minimal impact.

Old Business:

- A. John Pay is seeking a certificate of appropriateness for exterior renovations on property located at 123 Main Street, in the Business Historic (BH) District, Assessor's Map 10, Lot 182, HDC #07-2013.

Mr. Metivier asked Mr. Pay two questions: (a) whether or not the renovation was an awning; and (b) would it be flat against the building to fit in with the original design and other construction in the BH District. Mr. Pay affirmed that the renovation was not an awning, would be flat against the building, and would not be covered by clapboard.

Mr. Murray moved, and Councilor Donohue seconded, a motion to approve the motion as submitted. Motion was approved unanimously.

- B. The Chair reported no additional Old Business.

New Business:

- A. Robert and Lucey Couture are seeking a certificate of appropriateness for window replacement on property located at 37 Maple Street, in the Residential Single Family-A,

with a Historic Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 143, HDC #08-2013. Twenty-three windows are being replaced in total.

The petitioners were asked if the current windows which are being replaced are also vinyl; the petitioners confirmed that they are vinyl. Mr. Metivier asked how old were the windows and why they needed to be replaced. Mr. Couture replied that he did not know the exact age of the windows but that the present windows had been present for several decades; Mr. Couture furthermore replied that the reasons for seeking their replacement at this time are their age, and the fact that they leak allowing wind into the house. Mr. Metivier mentioned that some of the windows, based on their location, may have to be tempered glass to meet current code and he offered to assist the petitioners to determine which windows would need the tempered glass.

Mr. Marotta moved, seconded by Mr. Murray, to accept the proposal of the Coutures as submitted. Motion passed by majority vote; Ms. DeSantis abstained.

- B) Keith and Laura Adams re seeking a certificate of appropriateness for window replacement on property located at 22 Grove Street, in the Historic Moderate Density (HMD) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 30, HDC #09-2013. Thirty windows are to be replaced.

Mr. Adams reported that the windows are of an undetermined age but that there is evidence of rot damage and various smells that seep into the house. Mr. Adams furthermore reported that he has already determined which windows require tempered glass. In order to insure that the replacement windows retain the integrity of the windows being replaced, Mr. Metivier asked if the windows were GBG or slip-ons (Mr. Adams replied that they are GBG). Mr. Metivier also inquired which type of grill (flat, sculptured, simulated) the current windows are; Mr. Adams responded they are simulated. A short discussion between Mr. Marotta, Mr. Metivier, and Mr. Adams followed regarding what the impact of using true simulated window grills in the replacement would be. According to the documentation submitted by Mr. Adams, the contractor estimated that requiring true simulated windows would add approximately \$3,000 to cost of the renovation. Ms. DeSantis thanked Mr. Adams for seeking to maintain the historic integrity of the building with the types of windows he was proposing to use.

Mr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Marotta, to approve the request of the Adams's as submitted. Motion passed by majority vote; Ms. DeSantis abstained.

- C) Mark Bernier is seeking a certificate of appropriateness for placement of a shed on property located at 89 Prospect Street, in the Residential Single Family-A, with a Historic District Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 13, Lot 01, HDC #10-2013.

Mr. Bernier reported that the shed would be new (there is no shed on the property currently), that it would be unpainted, and that he planned to stain it the same color as the house/porch. Mr. Metivier stated that the proposal was originally rejected because some architectural features differed from the house. Mr. Metivier asked what was the siding on the house; Mr. Bernier replied that it looked like 1960s or 1970s aluminum siding 8" or so wide. The

house's roof consists of dark gray shingles. Ms. DeSantis inquired if the proposed shed could be seen from the street; Mr. Bernier replied that it would only be visible if one was driving down Emery; it would be more visible in winter when there were no leaves on the trees. Councilor Donohue asked about the color of the shed; Mr. Bernier reiterated that he would stain it the same color as the house's porch.

Mr. Marotta moved, seconded by Mr. Murray, that Mr. Bernier's proposal be approved with the stipulations that the shed be stained the same color as the house and that a black/gray roof to match the house be installed. Motion passed unanimously.

D) The Chair reported no additional New Business

Workshop Business

A) Further discussion led by Mr. Metivier and Mr. Marotta concerned Mr. Pay's removal of a stairway in contradiction of the HDC's instructions at his property at 123 Main. Mr. Metivier reported that he would be in contact with Mr. Pay.

Motion

Communications and Miscellaneous

A) Mr. Metivier reported two items. First, a letter was sent to Tony Doan extending the deadline of completion of his renovation to 30 June 2013. Secondly, James Dach reapplied for a permit whose 60 day extension expires at the end of July 2013.

The Chair reported no further communications or miscellaneous business.

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Pius Charles Murray

Pius Charles Murray
Recording Secretary

Please be advised that I neglected to save the audio recording of this meeting.

Motion to accept minutes of June 2013 meeting as amended made by Mr. Murray; seconded by Ms. DeSantis. Motion carried unanimously at HDC meeting on 08/28/2013.