



SOMERSWORTH HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Date: 28 October 2015

Place: City Hall, Somersworth, NH

Minutes of Regular Meeting: Adopted as
Amended on 11/24/2015

Present:

Madeline DeSantis, Chair
Albert Marotta, Vice-Chair
Martin Dumont, City Councilor
Laura Barry, Alternate
Arthur Hendrickson, Commissioner
George Poulin, Commissioner
Tim Metivier, Building Inspector and City Representative
Pius Charles Murray, Commissioner/Secretary

Members Absent:

Beth Poulin, Commissioner
Julie Rowe, Alternate

Petitioners Present:

Joey Basil (on behalf of HDC # 28-2015)
Lucey Couture (on behalf of HDC #28-2015)
Robert Couture (on behalf of HDC #28-2015)
Deborah Evans (on behalf of HDC # 22-2015)

Agenda

I. Call to Order by the Chair at 7:00 P.M.

II. Motion to approve the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes of the 22 July 2015 HDC meeting as submitted was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Councilor Dumont. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Report of Minimal Impact Projects

Mr. Metivier reported two projects of minimal impact:

1. Joanne Anderson, 15 Linden Street, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 120, HDC #18-2015. **Approved** for tree removal.
2. Gregory Fitzgerald, 10 Prospect Street, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 80, HDC #19-2015. **Approved** for a fence and retaining wall.

IV. Old Business

- A. There were no additional items of Old Business.

V. New Business

- A. Queensbury Mill Limited Partnership is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to add a roof structure over existing stairs on property located at 1 Market Street, in the Business Historic (BH) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 96, HDC #22-2015.

Councilor Dumont recused himself from discussion and voting on HDC #22-2015.

Deborah Evans represented Queensbury Mill Limited Partnership as she had at the 22 April 2015 HDC meeting for HDC # 03-2015. This time she is going to discuss HDC #22-2015. According to Ms. Evans, the application is to request approval to construct a roof over the existing concrete landing located on the side lot entrance to the building. The purpose is to help protect residents and visitors from harsh weather conditions as they enter or exit the building.

Ms. Barry asked if the new roof would be located at or near the main part of the building and wondered if it might impact the historic nature of the building. Ms. Barry also inquired as to the current material used on the roof (= rubber membrane). Mr. Hendrickson asked if the roof would match the that over the front entrance. He also asked about the use of shingles. Ms. Evans responded that the railing would mimic that of the front. Mr. Poulin stated that this entrance is less public than the front entrance due to its location in the back of the building.

Motion to approve #22-2015 with the stipulation that the post must be wrapped in pine and painted white was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Barry. Motion carried by majority, with Councilor Dumont abstaining.

- B. Lucey & Robert Couture are seeking a certificate of appropriateness to re-side the house at 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 #28-2015.

Joey Basil presented the petition before the Commission. The application seeks to "reside [the] home, with crane triple 6 exposure

vinyl siding over asbestos siding and remove areas of existing aluminum siding (front bay) [to] recover soffit fascias & window trim to replicate the existing trim that is currently covered in aluminum, Re-install existing aluminum gutter and pipe as needed. Remove all debris upon completion. [The reason for undertaking this project is that the] current situation has leaks.”

Mr. Hendrickson inquired if the asbestos could be removed before installing the new siding. Mr. Basil responded no, because the cost would be prohibitive, somewhere in the neighborhood of \$30,000-\$40,000. Councilor Dumont asked how much asbestos must be present before there is any abatement; Mr. Metivier replied twenty square feet. Council Dumont expressed his concern for seepage and mold.

Mr. Poulin asked if there were any cornices or cornerboards. Mr. Basil responded that there were cornerboards that would be 4 ½”, as close as they could get to being architecturally correct. Mr. Metivier explained that this house did not require cornerboards nor clapboards.

Motion to approve HDC #28-2015 with the stipulation to accept the use of vinyl and using j-trim on the windows and doors as well as preserving the pediments on the front door trim [friendly amendment on preserving the pediments on the front door trim was made by Mr. Marotta and seconded by Councilor DuMont) made by Mr. Poulin and seconded by Mr. Marotta. Motion was adopted unanimously.

C. Councilor Dumont brought to the Commission’s attention that the stairwells on the building at the corner of Washington and Main were in a dangerous condition. Mr. Metivier agreed describing them as “drooping.” If not fixed immediately, he would be forced to close the building which would involve relocating several families. In addition, the chimneys needed to be repointed and Mr. Metivier was having better luck training one of the owner’s sons in repointing the chimneys.

D. There was no additional New Business.

VI. Workshop Business

A. There was no Workshop Business

VII. Communications and Miscellaneous

A. Mr. Metivier reported that the final draft of the updated HDC procedures has been forwarded to Dave Sharples, with comments.

B. With the holidays coming up in November and December, the Commission inquired about its schedule of meetings. Mr. Metivier said that, while the holidays may affect specific meeting dates and times, the Commission would still have to meet if any applications are

submitted.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:23 P.M. was made by Mr. Poulin and seconded by Councilor Dumont. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pius Charles Murray

(Mr.) Pius Charles Murray, M.L.S., M.P.A.
Commissioner/Secretary