

**Somersworth Historic District Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
28 July 2021**

**Members in Attendance:** Laura Barry, Chair; Lindsey Gagnon, Vice-Chair, Richard Brooks, George Poulin; Charles Murray, Secretary

**Excused Members:** Councilor Matthew Gerding

**Staff in Attendance:** Tim Metivier, Code Enforcement Officer

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

1) **Approval of Minutes of 23 June 2021 minutes.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the 23 June 2021 minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by the Chair. Motion was adopted by majority vote (4-0-1); Mr. Murray abstained as he was absent at that meeting.

2) **Projects of Minimal Importance**

Mr. Metivier announced the approval of one project of minimal importance:

1. 31 Maple Street, in the Residential Single Family/A with Historic Overlay (R1AH), Assessor's Map 11, Lot 145, HDC #08-2021. To replace existing roof in kind.

3) **Public Comment by Visitors:** There were none.

3) **OLD BUSINESS**

A) Mr. Metivier asked to make a change to the minutes of 10 June 2021 which as a Special Meeting would have not had any Projects of Minimal Importance; he asked that there be no listing of Projects of Minimal Importance be on the 10 June 2021 minutes. Motion to approve Mr. Metivier's request was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Ms. Gagnon. Motion was adopted by a majority vote (4-0-1), Mr. Murray abstained.

B) Any further Old Business that may come before the Commission.

4) **NEW BUSINESS**

A) Borderline Beverage, is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to install new signage on a property located at 20-30 Market Street, in the Business with a Historic Overlay (BH) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 184, HDC # 10-2021,

Petitioner present: Jilender Patel.

Discussion: Mr. Metivier described the project as requesting a new single-faced sign with acrylic letters on white aluminum back ground for Borderline Beverages. Most of the discussion by the Commission centered on whether or not the awning would remain (the Chair; Mr. Brooks) and whether or not the sign would cover, even partially, the marble granite window (the Chair).

The Chair reminded Mr. Patel that if he wished to add lighting, he would have to return to the HDC for approval submitting another petition.

Disposition of HDC #10-2021: Motion to approve HDC #10-2021 with the condition that the awning would stay or be replaced with the sign put above the awning but below the windows above; the sign must fit between the lintel and windows above on the façade with granite siding was made by the Chair and seconded by Mr. Brooks. Motion was adopted unanimously.

B) Any additional New Business that may come before the Commission.

**5) WORKSHOP BUSINESS:** None

A) Any workshop business that may come before the Commission. - No workshop business.

**6) COMMUNICATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS**

A) The Chair asked if there was any news about the City Council approval concerning the NH State grant regarding HDC public courses. Mr. Metivier reported that he believed that it had been approved.

B) The Chair canvassed the Commissioners inquiring whether or not any candidates had been found to fill the HDC's position for a full member as well as all three alternates. No one reported any success.

C) Mr. Poulin reported that the Somersworth Historical Society would be sponsoring Cemetery Tours on 9-10 October 2021. Mr. Metivier asked if any actors would be hired, to which Mr. Poulin responded that there would be actors hired.\

**7) ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: To adjourn made by Mr. Brooks.

The MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Murray

The MOTION CARRIED by a 6-0 vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.

Respectfully submitted:

*Pius Charles Murray*

Pius Charles Murray  
Secretary