

SOMERSWORTH Historic District Commission
MINUTES OF MEETING
April 27th, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Brooks-Vice-Chair, George Poulin, Lindsey Gagnon-Secretary, Adam Young, Matthew Gerding-City Council Rep., Tim Metivier, and Kimberly Shoen

Excused Members: Laura Barry-Chair, Timothy Monahan

STAFF PRESENT: Michelle Mears-Director of Planning & Community Development, City of Somersworth

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Approval of February 23rd, 2022 meeting minutes.
 - a. Motion: Mr. Poulin MOVED to accept the minutes
 - b. The MOTION is SECONDED by Mr. Young
 - c. The MOTION CARRIED by a 6-0-2 vote
2. Projects of Minimal Impact Report.
 - a. High Hopes LMT, 98 High Street, in the Residential/Business with Historic Overlay (R/BH) District, Assessor's Map 10 Lot 155, HDC#07-2022. Application to re-roof in kind **approved as minimal impact.**
3. Public comments by visitors.
 - a. No comments were received via mail, email or phone. None were in person.
4. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. **MacKenzie Ventures, INC, is seeking a revision to the certificate of appropriateness to construct a new single-family, cape-style home on a property located at 56 Winter Street, in the Residential Single Family/A with Historic Overlay, Assessor's Map 11 Lot 173 4A, HDC#21-2020**

Ms. Mears reviewed the previous approval which included: windows and door trim, mud board and frieze board, integrated J channel and the vinyl siding does have the wood grain

Mrs. Shoen has concern regarding the concert foundation with how large and doesn't seem to fit in the area. Mr. MacKenzie suggested it would look better with steps and shrubbery out front. He also offered to paint the concrete as an option as well or taller shrubs to cover it. Mrs. Mears noted that there were no stairs in the original submission of the project.

Mr. Brooks referred to the past and described how the project got to this point. The steps and back deck he noted has not yet been proposed to the board and would need to be presented at some point. The cellar windows are a concern how they look. Mr. MacKenzie noted that they would be painted.

Mr. Gerding discussed the window trim concerns and noted that he doesn't see an issue with the outer trim, if replaced to the requirement, not matching the trim that divides the 2 windows (referred to as a center mullion) that are next to each other. The divider trim is the same size as the trim that separates the light pattern in the windows now. He was happy to hear from Mr. MacKenzie that the frieze board and mud boards were installed.

Mr. Metivier put into question the reasons for the mud board being installed with J Channel but not integrated as requested and the frieze board in fact is not installed. He also noted that if the windows had come with the wider trim that was originally requested the mullion would have been the same size that it is now. So if the trim was replaced with wider trim it would look the same as it did. The painting that was in the requirements he believes must have been referring to the stairs but not sure unless looking at the last meeting minutes. Mr. Metivier expressed the fact that all of the requirements set at the last meeting should all have been doable by the manufacturer based on his experience in the industry and appears that the items asked for were just not put on the order. With all this said he stated that he is not in favor of supporting the application to be amended as these issues can be addressed.

Mr. Brooks noted in his opinion at minimum the front and side the home needs to have the trim on the door and the windows replaced with the requested size.

Mr. Poulin made a motion that the front door and front windows need the 4in nominal trim added. Mrs. Shone made a second to the motion.

Mr. Gerding noted that he would not support the motion unless the sides were also included for having the trim updated to the 4 inch nominal size.

Mr. Metivier agreed but notes that it just needs to be a 4in reveal as the existing trim will give it extra width. In addition of all 4 corners should have the 6in corner boards.

Mr. Poulin rescinded his motion in order go with Mr. Metivier's suggestions.

MOTION: Mr. Poulin made a motion of: 6 inch corner boards at owner's discretion of how it is installed, trim around front door and windows along with sides 4 inch reveal, 6 inch frieze board the eaves, and a minimum of a 4 inch reveal around that trim.

Mr. MacKenzie expressed frustration that the request went from the front of the house getting the trim added around the door and windows to now the additional items in the motion.

Mr. Metivier noted that those items were all on the prior proposals.

The motion passed 5 with 2 abstaining by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

1. Matthew Gerding-City Council Rep.- yes
2. Tim Metivier - yes
3. Lindsey Gagnon-Secretary – abstain
4. Richard Brooks-Vice-Chair - yes

5. George Poulin - yes
 6. Adam Young - yes
 7. Kimberly Shoen – did not vote
5. NEW BUSINESS
- a. Mrs. Mears wanted to remind everyone that on May 25th at 5:45pm Historic New England will be here to present on old home dos and don'ts. It will be an hour long program and is going to be recorded. This is open to the general public to attend in Council Chambers.
6. WORKSHOP BUSINESS
- a. None
7. COMMUNICATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS
- a. Mr. Gerding welcomed the new members for their first meetings and thank everyone for the respect shown during tonight's meeting.
 - b. Ms. Gagnon let the board know this is her last meeting as she chose not to renew her membership.
8. Adjournment
- a. MOTION: To adjourn made by Mr. Metivier
 - b. The MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Gerding
 - c. The MOTION CARRIED by 7-0 vote.
 - d. The meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Lindsey Gagnon