



Somersworth

Historic District Commission

One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878

Minutes of Regular Meeting on 22 January 2020 at 7:00pm: First Draft

Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title/Role</u>
Laura Barry	Chair
Lindsey Gagnon	Vice-Chair
Matt Gerding	City Councilor
George Poulin	Commissioner
William Poole	Alternate Commissioner
Tim Metivier	Building Inspector
Pius Charles Murray	Secretary

Petitioners Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>HDC Petition #</u>
Humberto Andrade	HDC #47-2019
Anderson Denton	HDC #47-2019
David Baker	HDC #03-2020
Brian Barrington	HDC #48-2019
Norman Menard	HDC E#01-2020

Members of the Public in attendance:

Richard Brooks

Agenda & Minutes

I. Call to Order: At 7:00pm by the Chair.

The Chair warmly welcomed Mr. Poole as the HDC's most recent member as the new alternate. The Chair furthermore appointed Mr. Poole as full voting member of the board for tonight's meeting.

II. Approval of previous minutes:

<u>Motion</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Approve workshop minutes of 12/19/2019 as submitted	Mr. Murray	Councilor Gerding	Adopted unanimously
Approve regular mtg minutes of 12/19/2019 as amended	Mr. Murray	Mr. Poole	Adopted unanimously

III. Projects of Minimal Impact:

Mr. Metivier reported that in December 2019 two projects of minimal impact had been approved as follows:

1. Francoeur Realty Trust, 10 Green Street, in the Business with Historic Overlay (BH) District, Assessor's Map 1, Lot 172 HDC# 44-2019. **Application to replace the roof was approved.**
2. Norman Menard, 7 Maple Street, in the Historic Moderate Density (HMD) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 116, HDC# 46-2019. **Application to repair a 20'x20' section of roof was approved.**

IV. Comments by Visitors: There were none.

V. Old Business:

A. Green Rock Investments, LLC is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to install new siding on a property located at 14 Mt. Vernon Street, in the Historic Moderate Density (HMD) District, Assessor's Map 10, Lot 139, HDC #47-2019. The purpose of the project was to put new vinyl siding from Alside.

Petitioners Present: Humberto Andrade and Anderson Denton.

Discussion: Mr. Metivier explained that HDC #47-219 was being re-considered after it had been tabled at the December 2019 meeting with the agreement of the petitioners. The HDC had asked for alternatives to the vinyl siding as well as for eliminating the need for j-channels.

Mr. Andrade brought samples and prototypes from Alside Vinyl Siding for the Commission’s consideration. There was considerable discussion concerning the appropriateness of vinyl siding in the neighborhood as well as whether or not the asbestos should be removed.

The Chair asked about the effect of the trim and the corner-board. Mr. Denton responded that the channel would be built in. Councilor Gerding expressed concern about the exposure of the beam; the Chair furthermore asked about its width. Mr. Andrade explained that it is a single beam with a three-quarter inch width. Mr. Metivier explained that the depth of the metal could protect against the asbestos.

Mr. Poulin remarked that there are only three other houses in Somersworth with this type of siding; he was concerned that this house had too many ornate decorations that could be harmed in such a proposed renovation. Mr. Poulin thought this new siding would not fit into the neighborhood. Mr. Poole inquired whether or not the petitioners had investigated the removal of asbestos removal per state statute and the cost. The Chair reminded the HDC that we could not take cost into account when making a decision. Councilor Gerding also asked if nailing this siding in would disturb the asbestos; Mr. Metivier replied that while encapsulation has been successfully used in some Somersworth houses, nailing/drilling nail holes into asbestos is difficult and can cause dust. EPA could clarify better, the HDC should really focus on the siding type. The Chair expressed appreciation at the general shape of the property but explained that she is not a fan of corner-boards with asbestos.

Decision: Motion to deny HDC #47-2019 . Made by Councilor Gerding and seconded by Mr. Poulin. Because J-channel vinyl siding is only used on a couple other houses on this street and that its use would not be a type of siding used in the surrounding houses and would harm the character of the neighborhood. In addition, the existing historic siding is in good condition and a change to J-channel vinyl siding would change the historic nature of the house.

<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Ms. Barry	--	--
Ms. Gagnon	--	--
Councilor Gerding	--	--
Mr. Poulin	--	--
Mr. Poole	--	--
Mr. Murray	--	--
6	0	0

The Chair announced that the motion to deny HDC #47-2019 was approved unanimously 6-0.

B. Any other old business that may come before the Commission.

VI. New Business:

A. Somedowntown LLC is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to re-side with Hardyboard on a property located at 11-13 Highland Street in the Historic Moderate Density (HMD) District, Assessor’s Map 11, Lot 57, HDC# 03-2020.

Petitioners Present: David Baker

Discussion: Mr. Metivier described the project as removing deteriorating wood siding on a unit and to re-side it with Evening Blue Hardyboard. Mr. Baker said that his proposed renovation would be a significant upgrade for the property (somewhat like what he had done to Teatotaller's).

Mr. Poulin inquired if the shutters would be reattached; to which Mr. Baker replied, "No." The Chair asked if the central window would remain; to which Mr. Baker replied, "Yes."

Decision: Motion to approve HDC # 03-2020 as submitted was made by Mr. Poulin and seconded by Mr. Poole. Motion was adopted unanimously.

B. Brian R. and Mary Jane Barrington are seeking a certificate of appropriateness to re-shingle the siding of the carriage house on a property located at 39 Noble Street in the Residential Single Family-A with a Historic Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 01, HDC # 48-2019.

Petitioners present: Brian Barrington

Discussion: Mr. Metivier described the project as a re-shingling of the Carriage House with CVG Red Color clapboards 1/2" x 6". Mr. Barrington further explained that the Carriage House was weathering naturally and that he intended to preserve its historical accuracy.

The Chair explained that only recently has preservation of secondary buildings like this Carriage House become fashionable. Both the Chair and Mr. Poulin expressed great appreciation for this undertaking.

Decision: Motion to approve HDC #48-2019 as submitted was made by Mr. Poulin and seconded by Ms. Gagnon. Motion was approved unanimously.

C. Norman Menard is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to remove a chimney on a property located at 7 Maple Street in the Historic Moderate Density (HMD) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 116, HDC #01-2020.

Petitioners present: Norman Menard

Discussion: Mr. Metivier explained that this petition sought retroactive approval for the removal of a chimney. Mr. Menard submitted a letter detailing the circumstances surrounding this unexpected turn of events and re-iterated his apologies and explained in detail why this chimney removal had happened before he could submit a request to City Hall.

Decision: Motion to approve HDC #01-2020 as submitted was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Gagnon. Motion was approved unanimously.

D. Any other new business that may come before the Commission.

VII. Closing Comments by Visitors:

There were none.

VIII. Workshop Business:

A. Due to the holidays (and weather), neither the Education & Outreach Subcommittee nor any of the Coordinators (plaques, signs, or Walking Tours) had met. Reports were put off until the February 2020 HDC meeting.

B. The Chair asked to table consideration of the *Standards for Review* to allow the HDC to consider more closely the handwritten comments in it. Motion to table the *Standards for Review* until the February 2020 meetings was made by the Chair and seconded by Mr. Murray. Motion was approved unanimously.

C. Any other Workshop Business.

VIII. Communications & Miscellaneous

A. Mr. Murray informed the HDC that invitations to the Planning Office’s annual Appreciation Dinner should be arriving shortly. The dinner is scheduled for Thursday, 27 February 2020, at The Oaks in Somersworth. The Chair strongly encouraged as many Commissioners as possible to attend as HDC participation has lagged. Mr. Poole announced that he will be out of town and unable to attend this year.

B. Any other Communications and Miscellaneous.

X Adjournment:

<u>Motion</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Decision</u>
To adjourn at 7:57pm	Ms. Gagnon	Councilor Gerding	Adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Pius Charles Murray
(Mr.) Pius Charles Murray
Secretary



Winter in Somersworth