



Somersworth Historic District Commission

One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878

Minutes of Ordinance Subcommittee Meeting on 25 July 2017: Adopted as submitted

The meeting took place at City Hall

Present:

Laura Barry
Richard Brooks
Pius Charles Murray, Chair and Secretary

Member of the Public Present:

Christopher Smith

Agenda & Minutes

I. Call to Order: At 6:15 pm by the Chair.

II. Subcommittee Business

The Chair introduced Mr. Smith and asked if he had any comments. Mr. Smith stated that his interest in the Subcommittee's revisions of the City Ordinance derives from his experience working as a contractor. He explained his unfortunate experience working with the HDC. His hope would be that the revisions being worked on would allow for some alternate materials in the historic district.

The Subcommittee concentrated on editing the Standards for Review using Shanna Saunders's suggested emendations. Most of the corrections were grammatical. The Subcommittee did decide to rework #1 under Additions to explain what the requirement not to slavishly mimic or reproduce historic designs, not to install false representations means. Under subsection F Details, Mr. Smith clarified the importance of J-channels in certain circumstances. The Subcommittee decided to bring Mr. Smith's insights to the whole HDC. Under #6 Demolition by neglect was given its own subsection "D." Number 6 G was moved to the explanation at the beginning of Additions. Other changes were substitution of more readily known terms for laypersons to understand, rather than the more technical terms reserved for the Ordinances.

The Subcommittee decided also to bring to the entire HDC from the Ordinances the criteria for removal of a Commissioner (e.g. missing three consecutive meetings). The Subcommittee discussed the process of removal but decided to leave it as is which would allow the Chair to decide. Furthermore, the issue with siding and J-channels would be brought to the HDC.

III. Next Meeting:

The Subcommittee decided to meet again only if necessary.

IV Adjournment:

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm.

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