

SOMERSWORTH Historic District Commission
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 16, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Gerding-City Council Rep., Laura Barry-Chair, Richard Brooks-Vice-Chair, George Poulin, Lindsey Gagnon-Secretary, Adam Young

Excused Members: NA

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Metivier, Code Enforcement Officer

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

1. Approval of November 23rd, 2021 meeting minutes.
 - a. Motion: Mr. Brooks MOVED to accept the minutes
 - b. The MOTION is SECONDED by Mr. Poulin
 - c. The MOTION CARRIED by a 5-0-0 vote

2. Projects of Minimal Impact Report.
 - a. 174-176 High Street, in the Residential Duplex with Historic Overlay (R2H) District, Assessor's Map 10 Lot 113, HDC#26-2021. Application to re-roof was approved.

 - b. 55 Prospect Street, in the Residential Single Family/A with Historic Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 11 Lot 108, HDC#24-2021. Application to re-roof was approved.

3. Public comments by visitors.
 - a. No comments were received via mail, email or phone. None were in person.

4. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. **Somedowntown LLC, is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to replace windows on a property located at 60-64 High Street, in the Business with Historic Overlay (BH) District, Assessor's Map 11 Lot 214, HDC#25-2021**
 - i. David Baker, the applicant, was present. Mr. Baker came back under old business for additional approval as he needs to replace the third story windows that were not added to the original proposal. He is proposing to replace the window and the first transom and the next transom if needed but would be identical/like what is currently on the building.
 - ii. Discussion went around the board as to what is original or not to the building and if a different window style would suit the time period of the building better. Mr. Baker preferred to replace what is there now. Mr. Poulin agreed that replacing like kind of what is currently existing would be appropriate.

- iii. Mr. Metivier noted in the standards for review adopted in 2020 page 4 renovations states that if replacement is needed that new material should match what is being replaced in the design and other visual qualities.
- iv. Mr. Young agreed that if the windows will look as they do now after replaced that he is fine with them be replaced with what is proposed.
- v. Mrs. Barry would like the wood transom kept if possible or repaired.
- vi. Mr. Brooks had concerns regarding the glazing sizes as he believes the glazing should all be the same size to better match the sizing of the lower windows. He believes it would look more original if that was changed.
- vii. Motion: Mr. Poulin MOVED to accept the application as presented.
- viii. Motion is SECOND by Mrs. Barry
- ix. Motion passes 5-0-1

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Eric Lord, is seeking a certificate of appropriateness for installation a roof mounted solar panels on a property located at 40 Winter Street, in the Residential Single Family/A with Historic Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 11 Lot 139, HDC#27-2021**

- i. Mike & Cory Web came representing the applicant to install solar panels. He described that the project would not impact the current structures and that all would remain intact (shingles, siding and so forth).
- ii. Mrs. Barry questioned why once side of the building is slated to have more panels than the other. Mr. Web replied that the south facing side has more to allow for the most energy production.
- iii. Mr. Brooks asked if the roof was assed prior to determine if it could withstand the panels. Mr. Web said that the roof was surveyed and that was fine to install but may need re-roofing and the panels can be removed at any time to do so.
- iv. Mr. Web also noted that the panels are black on black so will not stand out against the shingles.
- v. Mrs. Barry asked about the equipment install / placement and how visible it would be from the road. Mr. Web noted it will be located at the back right side if the property away from the road.
- vi. Mr. Metivier said that this property had some outstanding application items have not been addressed or fixed from a previous owner. This new owner is responsible but it is not relevant to the current application.
- vii. Motion: Mr. Brooks MOVED to accept the application as presented.
- viii. Motion is SECOND by Mr. Poulin
- ix. Motion passes 6-0-0

b. **Martha Creegan, are seeking a certificate of appropriateness to replace siding and shutters for a property located at 79 Noble Street, in the Residential Single Family/A with Historic Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 13 Lot 10, HDC#28-2021**

- i. Mike Creegan describes that he has applied as the vinyl siding is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. When the vinyl siding was first installed it appears that

the clapboard siding underneath was drilled through to make holes to blow in insulation from the. Thus the clapboards are not salvageable either. Mr. Creegan would like to give a historic feel back to the home by matching the original clapboard exposure with the vinyl siding (4in exposure). The whole building will be resided for this project. His main request is if we can make an allowance for J channel to be used.

- ii. Mr. Metivier noted that prior to the adoption of our 2020 ordinances and requirements this would have been approved under minimal originally.
 - iii. Mr. Creegan noted the home is far back from the road so the J Channel won't really be seen.
 - iv. Mr. Metivier noted that in the survey of the home the historic integrity was diminished due to the vinyl siding that was already installed.
 - v. Motion: Mr. Poulin MOVED to accept the application as presented.
 - vi. Motion is SECOND by Mr. Brooks
 - vii. Motion passes 6-0-0
- c. Mr. Metivier is requesting some clarity on a previous application for Debra Kline. She is asking for more direction on what the HDC would like the foundation appearance to be on the section facing Winter Street elevation. The commission felt that at the previous meeting it was decided that the foundation there from left side to right is to be replaced with brick until at least the fire brick. Barn section of gable end to remain clapboard. If the fire brick has to be removed then it is to be replaced with brick for a more uniform historic look.

6. WORKSHOP BUSINESS

- a. The members need to make a list of homes for workshops and drone footage. Please work on this and send top Mrs. Barry before the 15th of January.

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Mr. Brooks questioned if the style of the homes that come before us can be described for the public's knowledge as part of the intro on the application. Mrs. Barry offered that she would be willing to read that kind of information off of the survey of that property in the future.

8. Adjournment

- a. MOTION: To adjourn made by Mr. Poulin
- b. The MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Brooks
- c. The MOTION CARRIED by a 6-0 vote.
- d. The meeting adjourned at 8:24PM.

Respectfully submitted:
Lindsey Gagnon