



Somersworth Historic District Commission

One Government Way, Somersworth, NH 03878

Regular HDC Meeting of Thursday, 28 December 2017: Adopted as submitted

Present:

Laura Barry, Chair
Richard Brooks, Vice-Chair
Tim Metivier, Code Enforcement Officer

Edward Levasseur
George Poulin
Pius Charles Murray, Secretary

Absent:

Martin P. Dumont, Sr., City Council Rep

Beth Poulin

Petitioners Present:

Paul Blair, on behalf of HDC #37-2017

Agenda and Minutes

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

II. Approval of Minutes:

(a.) Motion to table the minutes of the Regular HDC meeting of 21 November 2017 was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Murray. Motion passed unanimously.

(b.) Motion to approve as submitted the minutes of the HDC Ordinance Subcommittee meeting of 13 November 2017 was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Projects of Minimal Impact: Mr. Metivier reported one project of minimal impact approved as follows:

Northern NE Telephone, 106 High Street, Assessor's Map 10, Lot 156, HDC #36-2017. Application to replace the existing sign was approved.

IV. Public Comment by Visitors: There were none.

V. Old Business: There was none.

VI. New Business:

(a.) Regal Properties, LLC is seeking a certificate of appropriateness for exterior renovations on property located at 8 Prospect Street, in the Historic Moderate Density (HMD) District, Assessor's Map 11, Lot 79, HDC #37-2017.

Paul Blair was present to discuss the project. Mr. Metivier offered a brief description of HDC #37-2017 as follows: "New roof, asphalt shingle, replace in kind; cedar shingles there now. Repair front porch, remove windows, open porch with three 4/4 posts. All five windows to be replaced." Mr. Metivier further explained that this was the first time this owner or this property had ever come before the HDC.

Mr. Brooks asked for what reason the Stop Work permit was issued; Mr. Metivier replied that it was done for two reasons: (a) the project did not have a building permit; and (b) it had not received approval from the HDC. Mr. Brooks inquired if the project would require stripping the porch and if so were any structural changes to be made. Mr. Blair said that no structural changes were anticipated; hne would remove the clapboard and kept he shingles. The Chair complimented Mr. Blair for returning the porch to its original open form; the Chair referred to the historical evaluation in the application that said the house had good integrity, only lessened by the enclosure of the porch. Mr. Brooks asked if all the windows would be replaced and if so would they remain with the same 1/1 grid; Mr. Blair responded that the windows needed replacing because they are rotting and in addition they would retain the same 1/1 grid. Mr. Brooks then asked if the replacement windows was a full encasement; Mr. Blair replied that it is a full encasement that will fit in what it replaces. The Chair asked about keeping the brackets, to which Mr. Blair said that he would retain them; his project does not intend to change anything. The Chair asked about painting; Mr. Blair asked if the HDC had any requirements regarding

color. Mr. Metivier read the HDC guidelines regarding retention of age appropriate criteria. While Mr. Brooks wanted a drawing of the brackets as a requirement for approval, the Chair recommended submission of an example of what they would look like as an acceptable substitute.

Motion to approve HDC #37-2017 as submitted pending the submission of a drawing or an example of the porch's finishing details was made by Mr. Brooks and seconded by Mr. Murray. Motion passed unanimously.

(b.) Any further new business that may come before the Commission.

VII. Closing comments by Visitors: There were none.

VIII. Workshop Business: There was none.

IX. Communications and Miscellaneous:

(a.) Mr. Metivier reported that Breton Cleaners had been demolished and was now being monitored for contaminants; in addition, he reported that the Hilltop School sale has formally gone through so that the developer could be eligible for tax credits which are disappearing in 2018.

(b.) Mr. Brooks inquired about use of the city's website to provide more information for citizens with property in the HDC. The Chair replied that the city was in the process of revamping its website and that the HDC's wishes would be addressed.

(c.) The Chair welcomed Mr. Levasseur as the soon-to-be City Council representative to the HDC.

(d.) Motion to thank Councilor Marty Dumont for his work on the HDC as City Council representative was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

X. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:40 pm was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Levasseur. Motion passed unanimously.

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



