

SOMERSWORTH Historic District Commission
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 23rd, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laura Barry-Chair, Richard Brooks-Vice-Chair, George Poulin, Lindsey Gagnon-Secretary, Adam Young, Timothy Monahan

Excused Members: Matthew Gerding-City Council Rep.

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 January 26, 2022 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 6-0-0 vote
2. Projects of Minimal Impact Report.
 - a. Emily Higman 172 High Street, in the Residential Multi-Family with Historic Overlay (R3H) District, Assessor's Map 10 Lot 112, HDC#05-2022. Application to reroof in kind was **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**
 - i. Was moved to the next meeting in March.
 - b. **James & Kathy Kinneavy are seeking a revision to the certificate of appropriateness to replace windows and siding on a property located at 17 Lincoln Street, in the Residential Single Family/A with Historic Overlay (R1AH) District, Assessor's Map 11 Lot 132, HDC#03-2022**
 - i. James Kinneavy was in attendance. He came to present an update on the scalloped siding on the gable end above the second floor windows that was asked to be replaced in kind at the last meeting. He reached out to his contractor about making the change and was told that this style siding is not currently available, Additionally if they were able to source out the siding that it would be 6months or more before they could get any in hand.
 - ii. Mr. Brooks asked if the applicant had looked into other sources for the siding. Mr Kinneavy noted he has already paid his contractor up front so needs to work with

them. Mr. Brooks offered the solution of suggesting installing cedar shakes as another alternative.

- iii. Mr. Poulin questioned what else the contractor might be able to supply instead. Mr. Kineav noted that the order is pretty much already placed and is why switching product from the original order he had presented at the last HDC meeting would cause a 6 month delay as the new product would need to be ordered.
- iv. Mrs. Barry brought up the fact that the home is already not of value to district as much of the historic features and we have already allowed for the vinyl siding. The scalloped shingles at the top of the gable would have given the home a little of its original historic character and differentiate it from the neighbor's home. Seems like the missing feature ultimately won't likely help or hurt the district.
- v. Mr. Poulin made a motion to approve the siding without the scalloped gable end.
- vi. Mr. Young seconded the motion.
- vii. Motion Passed 5-1

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Scott Dougham of GoPermits LLC on behalf of Emily Hignan, is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to remove and replace 12 windows for a property located at 172 High Street, in the Residential Multi-Family with Historic Overlay (R3H) District, Assessor's Map 10 Lot 112, HDC#04-2022**

- i. Lenny from Home Depot was in attendance and described the project. The windows are deteriorating and is why they need to be replaced.
- ii. Mrs. Barry asked about the grid pattern of the windows existing and what they would be replaced with. Lenny described that the attic windows are 2 over 2 and then lower windows are 2 over 1. Moving forward the applicant would like no grid pattern same as the neighbors and the existing bay window.
- iii. There was back and forth discussion regarding what is considered in kind. For this project the board was referring to the grid pattern and so forth.
- iv. Mr. Brooks asked if the 12 windows in the application encompassed all the windows or just some of them. The home owner Ms. Hignan stated the 12 windows are about half of the total window count as they are replacing the windows in the worst shape at this time. The home owner is looking to replace the windows on the oldest part of the home first and are waiting to replace more windows on an addition of the home.
- v. Mr. Brooks asked if the replacement windows would interfere with the window trim on the outside of the home that is covered by the vinyl siding. Lenny described that the exterior of the window will not be touched.
- vi. Mr. Poulin is in favor of the project as long as a grid pattern on the windows is in kind with what is there.
- vii. Mrs. Barry would prefer to be consistent with the grid pattern instead of like kind. It appears the 2 over 1 seems like it would be most prominent.
- viii. Lenny asked if just the front windows could have the grid pattern vs having to put a grid pattern in all the windows. Mrs. Barry stated that since more than one side of the home is visible from the street that we would not go that route.
- ix. Mr. Poulin made a motion to approve the application with the amended terms of the windows needing to have a 2 over 1 grid pattern.

x. Mr. Brooks second the motion.

xi. Motion Passed 6 – 0

b. Meredith Perrotto, is seeking a certificate of appropriateness to install 3 signs made of DiBond Board on a property located at 90 Market Street, in the Business with Historic Overlay (BH) District Assessor's Map 11 Lot 201, HDC#06-2022

i. Meredith Perrotto came in attendance and stated that she did submit a letter from the sign company regarding the project and it is in our packets. She also stated the she is looking to have her sign made of a similar product to other signs that have come before the HDC.

ii. Mr. Brooks raised some concern if the sign would have a high glossy look as a recent sign that was installed in the district has. It was similarly made with glossier finish than he would have liked for a sign in the district. Ms. Perrott was looking to not have a high gloss finish to the sign as it would not fit her vision either. She will be sure to confirm the sign company is clear on that as well.

iii. Mr. Poulin made a motion to accept the sign as is with a matte finish.

iv. Second Mr. Monahan

v. Motion Passed 6 - 0

6. WORKSHOP BUSINESS

a. Had our first workshop 11 attendees

b. Next workshop is on March 23rd

c. Discussion on better ways to promote the workshops on the website. Mr. Brooks would like if we could have the workshop more prominent on the website. Additionally changing the titles of the announcements of the workshop to something catchy instead of just press release.

d. Director Mears submitted a grant to the Certified Local Government for us to become members of the National Preservation Alliance. This would give the HDC access to all of their trainings and so forth.

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS

a. A reminder that the Summersworth Historical Museum is open Sundays 12:30 to 3:30

b. Mrs. Barry noted we have 2 more applicants for the board with a second reading coming up at the City Council meeting on March 7th.

8. Adjournment

a. MOTION: To adjourn made by Mr. Monahan

b. The MOTION SECONDED by Mr. Young

c. The MOTION CARRIED by a 6-0 vote.

d. The meeting adjourned at 7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Lindsey Gagnon