



Somersworth Historic District Commission

One Government Way, Somersworth, NH 03878

Minutes of Ordinance Subcommittee meeting on 14 August 2018: 1st Draft

Present:

Laura Barry	Pius Charles Murray, Chair & Secretary
Richard Brooks	

Agenda and Minutes

I. Call to Order: At 5:51 pm by the Chair

II. Examination of the Revision of the Somersworth City Ordinance 19.14

The Chair explained the purpose of the meeting as examining the proposed city ordinance 19.14 in light of input from the City Manager and Shanna Saunders.

Ms. Barry reported her meeting with the City Manager. According to Ms. Barry, the City Manager asked that corrections and emendations be written in red next to the replaced text written crossed out in black. Furthermore, the City Manager recommended that 19.14.G4c Roman numerals i-v be eliminated completely as current city ordinances and state law provide sufficient authority to deal with aging and decrepit structures. In addition, the City Manager suggested that 19.14.B.2 on Membership be transferred to the HDC Rules of Procedure as the section describes administrative duties of the commission that are more properly found there than in city ordinances. The City Manager also

recommended that 19.14.G.3.b Conditions be removed as they were deemed too directive of city staff who may advise but not report to city boards or commissions.

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Shanna Saunders recommended that 19.14.E.4.c Presentation of the application and 19.14.E.4.d Public Meeting from “the public ... by the HDC” both be removed from the city ordinance and transferred to the Rules of Procedure as they are procedural or administrative rules. Finally, Ms. Saunders suggesting transferring 19.14.G.4.d Reporting to Rules of Procedures.

Ms. Barry stated that these were all recommendations that the HDC was free to adopt or not. In addition to the recommended major changes described above, the subcommittee tweaked. There was discussion as to whether to retain 19.14.G.4.d Reporting as part of the proposed city ordinance or to accept the city’s recommendation to transfer it to Rules of Procedure; the consensus of the subcommittee was to retain 19.14.G.4.d in the proposed ordinance.

Motion to approve the Ordinance Revision of 14 August 2018 was made by Ms. Barry and seconded by Mr. Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the Standards for Review with edits was made by Ms. Barry and seconded by Mr. Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:57pm was made by Ms. Barry and seconded by Mr. Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pius Charles Murray

(Mr.) Pius Charles Murray
Chair and Secretary