

Exeter Historic District Commission

March 17, 2016

Final Minutes

Call meeting to Order: Patrick Gordon called the meeting to order at 7 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Office Building.

Members present: Patrick Gordon, Chairman, Julie Gilman, Selectwoman, Valerie Ouellette, Pam Gjettum, Clerk, Fred Kollmorgen

New Business: Public Hearings: Continued public hearing on the application of Geoffrey Pendexter for the replacement of windows, change in appearance to the existing structure and proposed new construction of an addition to the rear of the existing structure located at 105-107 Water Street. Patrick stated that the commission saw Mr. Pendexter's application last month and they gave him a list of some things to come back with. Patrick stated they would start with what he was asked to come back with. Mr. Pendexter stated they had talked about centering the windows in the garage and using two over two windows. He stated none of this will be a problem. The siding elevation will be five inches and the trim will be three and one half inch, white and the sill will be wood. He stated that the railing for the balcony will be a plain standard railing.

Patrick then stated that the commission would go back to the minutes to make sure Mr. Pendexter brought back everything they had asked for. Patrick asked if the balcony door would be a slider. Mr. Pendexter could not remember what his wife said she wanted. Julie asked if the balcony was going to be set back eight feet not blocking the window on the other building. He stated that it would be set back. He also stated that he spoke with Mario today and he was ok with this. Patrick asked if the commission had a floor plan showing this set back. There is not a floor plan showing the balcony set back. Patrick then asked the public if there was anyone who would like to speak for or against this project. There was none. He then asked the commission if they had any additional questions. Fred made a motion to approve. Pam seconded. All were in favor and application approved.

Next on the agenda is a request by Julie Williams, Executive Director of the American Independence Museum for a preliminary consultation to review a proposed landscaping design for the property at One Governors Lane. Julie Gilman stated that she is on the Board of Governors of the museum and she will sit in on conversation because it is preliminary, but when it comes to the application, she will step aside. Julie Williams stated that for the past few years, the museum has been undergoing a strategic plan. This will guide us to the future of how the museum serves the community and educates the public with their mission. They were able to raise a sum of money from a private individual in town to conduct a landscape survey. At this time, our Board of Governors and staff believe that it is not with merit to think of building a building. On our site, we do believe that we have opportunities to provide educational spaces. We can do this by using our one acre grounds. Julie stated that with the money they received, they were able to hire Pellettieri Associates, Inc. The museum has given them a guideline of things they are looking to achieve with a new plan. The first change would be to repair the stairs. They have received quotes and doing a straight on approach, is more reasonable. Aside from being a little more welcoming, it will be easily maintained and it will be in code. This is what the museum will be doing this year. She stated that if she needs the commission's approval for this staircase, she will seek it. She also stated that the staircase is a massive safety concern for the museum. Most of the other changes the

museum would like to do, depends on fund raising. Fred mentioned that Julie should go to the police station and ask them to install a cross walk for the stairway which is going to be fixed. Julie Gilman stated she thought it was more of a public works question since they will be starting the sidewalk work soon. Julie stated she thought it was a great suggestion.

Julie stated that the staircase was something the museum wanted to tackle soon, so she would be returning with pictures and more information. Patrick recommended that Julie label the new plan to make it clear what everything is.

Other Business: Patrick stated that there is the third reading of the revised HDC applications. After this third reading, it will be the formal adoption of this application. Patrick once again passed this to Julie. She stated that there are now three applications for the application. There are check boxes so that it is easier for the applicant to come in and understand what they need to bring to us. The department will be able to check off to see if the applicant has brought it. There is also a space for the commission to sign off on.

Next is the approval of the February 18, 2016 minutes. There were a few changes. Fred made a motion to approve with the changes. Julie seconded. All were in favor and minutes approved.

Next is the schedule for meetings with consultant for updating HDC Guidelines, week of 4/4/16. Julie stated the consultant will be coming up to speak and so far April 5th seems to be working so far. Patrick then stated that there was one more thing that was not on the agenda and it is the passing into law. The law is the accessory to all units. This will be adopted in June of 2017 and Patrick stated the commission should have some sort of consideration and they may not have to mention it at all. Julie then stated that it already does and there is nothing the commission needs to do. Patrick stated he would just like to put this out as an awareness for the commission.

The new Town Planner, Dave Sharples, sat in and attended the meeting. He introduced himself and explained that he was going to all the board meetings.

With no further business, Patrick made a motion to adjourn, Julie seconded. All were in favor and meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick
Recording Secretary