

Historic District Commission

October 21, 2021

Final Minutes

Call Meeting To Order: Patrick Gordon, Chairman, called meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Office Building.

Members Present: Patrick Gordon, Chairman, Julie Gilman, Select Board Rep., Grayson Shephard, Gwen English, Planning Board Rep.

New Business: Public Hearing: Continued public hearing on the application of Barbara Shaw for changes to the existing structure located at 163 Water Street (Unit A4) for window replacement. Case #21-8.

Charles Ebert was here tonight representing Barbara Shaw who was out of town. He said they have narrowed down the windows to a wood frame with aluminum clad and are not going with the vinyl anymore. They are going with Portland Glass and the brand is a Harvey window. Charles then passed out spec sheets to the board members. He said that Barbara has been working with Dana Harding of Portland Glass. He was trying to get a mock up for tonight but he is having trouble with supplies. He can guarantee a mock up by November 2nd. He feels the parts will be in by that date.

He stated that this is a wood frame, aluminum clad exterior window. It will match any window that is currently on the building. He said he thinks there has been some discussion on changing all of the windows to match on the back. There will be as many as 36 windows. The existing windows are really in bad shape. The frames are cracked and leaking. People are putting up plastic to protect their interior of their condos. This is an urgent problem when it comes to ability to seal, cold, rain or any other type of weather situation. He said Barbara has done a lot of work. They have gone through Marvin Pella and Andersen to select this window. He said he thinks the window Barbara has selected is a very good product.

Charles said that Barbara wants to reschedule for November 2nd or any date near there to complete this process. Portland Glass will definitely have the mock up at that point. He said this process is just about finished now.

Julie asked if this project was for all of the windows. Charles said he thinks the discussion is that the current windows are deteriorating so they want the Condo Association to work with them to complete all of the windows. He said they just had the front of the building painted and all the windows there are all wood. The front of the building and the side of the building was just painted a couple of weeks ago and they just want to make sure everything is uniform. He said it is still a discussion on completing the whole project. He said it is time sensitive too because of the weather. Barbara has done a lot of research and has been working with Dan and Charles feels that they have a good product now.

Patrick then asked Charles if there was any other information to be presented tonight and Charles said there was not. Patrick then said that the request is to table this to at least November 2nd. Charles said she wanted to reschedule for the next HDC Meeting. Patrick said the next meeting is November 18th. Charles said that would be great and she would have plenty of time to prepare. Patrick said that she

may want it sooner than that because she was making that request last time when she was here. Patrick asked Charles to have Barbara email the commission if her request is before our next scheduled meeting. Patrick told Charles that should reiterate to her also before that next meeting to re-read through our meeting minutes and bring all the requested things we had asked for.

Julie said that at the last meeting, one of the things I recommended was looking into refurbishing instead of replacing and I had emailed a couple of names to her. Charles said that Barbara had mentioned it. Patrick then asked if she had received any quotes from them. Charles said he thinks she was working on that too.

Patrick said with the information you provided for us on the windows, it does not say anything about the cladding on the exterior. Do you know what type of aluminum it is going to be? Charles said that he has not actually seen the material yet.

Charles said the name of the window is Majesty. He said he went on line and looked at the window and he said it is a very solid window.

Patrick then asked for a motion to table this application. Julie made a motion to table this application to a date to be determined for our November meeting. Grayson seconded. All were in favor and application tabled.

Next on the agenda is the application of Frank Sabin for the proposed installation of wooden fencing on the property located at 129 High Street. Case #21-9. Minnie Sabin spoke and said they live at 129 High Street and are here tonight to get your approval on a fence on our property. She said they have recently adopted a golden retriever puppy and we are hoping to provide it with a little area in the back to roam. You received information on the area that the fence would be taking up in the back of the house. It is not covering our entire property, it would just be focused on the back of the house with a slight part of the fence being seen from High Street. She said they have a line of trees on High Street that act like a screen. Julie asked if they were looking at having a solid fence and Minnie said yes. She said solid fence is on the part facing High Street as well on the side next to our neighbors. The back will be a picket fence with a gate. Frank Sabin spoke and said they wanted to make it more inviting for the neighbors.. Frank said they have an electric fence and it is 99% effective and having the 1% possibility of the dog running out to High Street is very concerning. It is not so much that we needed the fence, it is just a precaution for the puppy.

Patrick then asked what the wood material is going to be, is it cedar? Frank said it is cedar. Patrick said and it is intended to be left to age naturally and both Frank and Minnie said yes. Frank said it will be identical to other fences in the area. Patrick thanked them for a complete application and putting it all together. It is very helpful for us when all the information is there. Patrick then said that he certainly sees enough information in there to accept the application. Julie made a motion to accept the application and Gwen seconded. All were in favor and application accepted.

Patrick then asked the commission members if there were any additional questions or comments. Grayson said he just wanted to make sure that he is clear, the picketed fence is in the back of the house and Minnie and Frank both said that it is.

With no further questions or comments, Patrick asked for a motion for acceptance or non-appropriateness. Julie said that it is an appropriate use of a fence and it does not dominate the house

itself. It is also pretty well screened from the street. Julie made a motion to approve the application as appropriate. Gwen seconded. All were in favor and application approved.

Other Business: Approval of the September 23, 2021 minutes. After review and a few changes, Julie made a motion to approve minutes as amended. Grayson seconded. All were in favor and minutes approved.

Julie spoke about the Grants. She said there was a ZOOM conference on CLG Grants and they are extending the process. When we put in the Letter of Intent for what we might want to do with some Grant money, there is actually going to be a longer time. It used to be October and they have changed it to January. The time it takes from the Letter of Intent to doing the full application is another three months. She said the budget is coming up now and we have time to decide if we want to add anything more to the budget. Right now we have some projects budgeted so we would have to decide what kind of project we wanted to do. Patrick said he knows we have moved this around to different departments. Patrick then asked what was on the table for them to do. Julie said there are three levels of grants that are provided.

One of the levels is survey and this is free because the State wants every town to be surveyed for their history and any landmarks.

The second level is Project Planning. This includes Public Education. It might be planning to put something on the National Register.

The third is an actual Physical Project and this is very hard to get because they really specialize in education and documentation.

She wanted to tell the commission a couple of things that are happening. The Town Hall Energy Committee has gone forward with a proceeding because the building is pretty much open.

Patrick said there was a thought the last time doing the history of Exeter. Julie said she had talked about doing a manual of different styles and different types of architecture. The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance would probably give us \$1,000 towards this kind of project.

Patrick asked if there was any grant master list now that the Historical Society has and Julie said she really did not know. Patrick said it would just be fascinating to walk down Water Street and know when every building was built.

Patrick asked Julie if they should brain storm and come up with some ideas for the next meeting. Julie thought that is a good idea. Patrick said he will email everyone in the commission and ask them to come with some ideas.

With no further business, Patrick called for a motion to adjourn and Gwen said, so moved. Everyone was in favor and meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick

Recording Secretary

