

- Historic District Commission
February 19, 2026
Draft Minutes

Call Meeting to Order: Grayson Shephard, Chair, called meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Novak Room of the Exeter Town Office Building.

Members Present: Grayson Shephard, Chair, Kevin Kahn, Vice Chair, Julie Gilman, Select Board Rep., Pam Gjettum, Gwen English, Planning Board Rep., Amanda Kelly via zoom
New Business: Public Hearing: No new applications received.

Other Business: A request from Phillips Exeter Academy for an extension of the Certificate of Appropriateness for the application of Exonian Properties, 43 Front Street, Case # 21-4.

Heather Taylor from the academy spoke. We purchased the property and they had a set of approvals and they were going to build eleven condos, but we are not going to build eleven condos. We are looking to turn it into a dorm but we have just begun construction so we are looking across the board just to do the extensions. We hired the architects that did the project hoping to do and use as much as we can from what they did. We have just started so if things change, we will obviously be back and we just want to extend the approval as it was.

Julie said, that was my only question. If you are making changes, please come back.

Grayson said, that was mine as well. If there were going to be any alterations to the approved plans but if not, I have issues with the extension.

Julie said, I have one question that I cannot commit you to, the stained glass window?

Heather said, we are in the midst of it but the framework of it that has been approved, we are going to try and keep it as they had it approved.

Kevin said, I might know somebody who would want the Star of David stained glass.

Heather said, we just had our first conversation so I am not sure about the glass. The things of value, I hope we can find a place where they go intact.

Julie made a motion to approve an extension of the Certificate of Appropriateness for 43 Front Street, Case # 21-4 through December 17, 2028. Pam seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

Grayson said, the next item we have is a presentation from the Barrett Group on a presentation of the status of the High Street Historic Survey. Jen Doherty is present via zoom.

Jen said, I don't really have a presentation. It is more of an update. I have been working with Julie on your CLG Grant to document the properties within the Historic District beginning at

the east end of High Street and then working west. This year's phase will be documenting about fifty resources on inventory forms that we have prepared based on what the town had provided. I sent some sample forms to Julie and I don't know if those made it around or not. I can pull one up if that is helpful. Just wanted to give you an update and get any thoughts you have on the sample forms.

Julie said, the files you sent me did not get dispersed to the commission, so if you can show us one, that would be great.

Jen showed the commission the form and talked them through it.

Julie said, we got approved for another \$25,000 to continue this project so we can go further down High Street and maybe beyond.

Next on the agenda is the approval of the December 18, 2025 minutes. After review and a few changes, Grayson asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Pam said so moved. Gwen seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

With no further business, Grayson made a motion to adjourn.
Pam seconded. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned
at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Herrick
Recording Secretary