

These minutes were approved at the September 3, 2009 meeting.

**DURHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT HERITAGE COMMISSION
JULY 2, 2009**

DURHAM TOWN HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS 7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair - Nick Isaak; Vice Chair - Crawford Mills
Secretary - Andrea Bodo; Leslie Schwartz; Town Council Rep Peter Stanhope

MEMBERS ABSENT: Eric Ingelfinger; Planning Board Rep Richard Ozenich

OTHERS PRESENT: David Schwartz

I. Chairman Isaak called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes – June 4, 2009

Crawford Mills, Leslie Schwartz, Nick Isaak approved minutes of June 4
Peter Stanhope and Andrea Bodo abstained since they were not at the mtg.

III. New Business

A. Application for a Certificate of Approval submitted by David Schwartz, Geld Realty Trust, for the exterior renovation of a property. The property involved is shown on Tax Map 6, Lot 9-4, is located at 24 Newmarket Road and is in the Residence B Zoning District.

The presentation detailed the description of the new chimney construction using historical bricks and to comply with safety guidelines. Windows will be replaced or repaired and will be kept historically accurate. New front entry steps of brick or slate will replace worn granite steps. The intention is to be as historically accurate as possible.

A motion was made by Crawford Mills to approve the application as submitted and unanimously approved.

B. Andrea Bodo read a letter of thanks to Nick Isaak and the members of the Commission for their interest, concern and involvement with the advocacy for preservation of the Oyster River Dam. Letter is attached as part of the record.

C. Andrea Bodo said she spoke with Myranda McGowan at the Strafford County Regional Planning Office re possible grant money from Transportation Enhancement funds for the Oyster River Dam, or possible

funding for core sampling of the dam. She sent pictures of the dam, the award winning DOT Rte 108 bridge, and the pedestrian footbridge. She spoke with Jim Campbell who will look into this.

- D. Crawford Mills discussed researching dams that have been removed to see the outcomes. Andrea said that she and Steve had visited some of them and she will bring in info to the next mtg.
- E. Leslie Schwartz questioned how other Towns did impoundment maintenance and suggested researching this. Andrea Bodo said that when the mill was in operation for over 150 yrs the Pond appeared to be healthy. It appears that historically the gates were opened periodically and the vegetation of the Pond was allowed to freeze and die off. This has not been done for a number of years now. The Commission discussed the need to have some form of maintenance plan since dredging would be costly and probably not be funded in this current economic climate. Councilor Stanhope suggested that HDC make a proposal for maintaining the Pond to preserve this historic property and we present it to the Town Council. Andrea will research how other impoundments have been managed and maintained.

IV. Old Business

Crawford Mills moved to adjourn the meeting
Leslie Schwartz SECONDED the motion,
and it PASSED unanimously

Adjournment at 8:10 pm

Next regular meeting of HDC August 6, 2009

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Bodo secretary

ANDREA BODO – 20 NEWMARKET ROAD – DURHAM NH 03824

**To: Nick Isaak, Chairman Historic District/Heritage Commission
From: Andrea Bodo, member of HD/Heritage Commission**

Dear Nick and members of the HD/Heritage Commission

I want to thank you for your thoughtful concern about the fate of the Oyster River Dam,

After rejoining the Commission, I appreciated your willingness to participate in ongoing education, thoughtful discussion and informed opinion as we sought a way to proceed together.

I think our strategic plan of assessing our important structures in the historic district and advocating for them when they are threatened is an important contribution of this Commission. One we can be very proud of.

**The application for the Oyster River Dam has been reviewed by the NH Division of Historic Resources qualifying for –
Architecture, engineering, workmanship, setting, place, location, design, materials, feeling, association, event and archaeology.**

This recognition from the State now qualifies Durham for potential funding based on ELIGIBILITY ALONE.

I am proud to be a member of a Commission in our Town that is willing to stand up for values that we feel are important. Without this kind of advocacy, we as a Community are diminished...

This dam may ultimately be removed but I feel that now we have a level playing field against all the outside special interest groups that have been talking about taking out our dam.

Regards,

**Andrea Bodo
20 Newmarket Road
Durham NH 03824**

Thursday, May 07, 2009