

These minutes were approved at the September 1, 2011 meeting.

DURHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT /HERITAGE COMMISSION
Thursday June 2, 2011
DURHAM TOWN HALL -COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MEMBERS PRESENT, Leslie Schwartz, chair; Henry Smith, vice chair; Andrea Bodo secretary ; Peter Stanhope ,Town Council rep;

MEMBERS ABSENT: Richard Ozenich, Planning Board rep; Eric Ingelfinger

OTHERS PRESENT: Pastor Mary Westfall, Durham Community Church

I. CALL TO ORDER 7:10p

Andrea made a motion to revise the agenda to have item number IV New Business first. Leslie seconded.

III. Approval of Minutes :

April minutes - Henry amended the word "developed" to "developer"

Andrea made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Henry

IV. New Business

A. Application for Certificate of Approval submitted by Community Church of Durham, Map 5, Lot 2-8, for the placement of an A frame removable sign.

Pastor Westfall said the Church would like to have a temporary sign for their Thrift Shop project. It would probably be used on Tues-Thurs-Sat with the possibility of early evening hours. She also stated that they would like to consider a banner which might be more attractive and asked our opinion.

Chair Schwartz stated that an appearance before the HDC regarding a sandwich or similar sign of temporary, intermittent use was unnecessary, but recommended that someone make a motion that the HDC nonetheless grant the Community Church an approved application, since the paperwork had been completed, the time and effort had already been expended, and the church is a non-profit and should therefore be spared an entanglement in hair-splitting over the meaning of the word "temporary"[sign]. Council Rep. Peter Stanhope expressed a desire to abstain from the vote because he too disagreed with the Code Enforcement Officer's interpretation and the resultant appearance of the Reverend before the HDC about the sign, and was, additionally, hesitant to set a precedent. He voted in favor of approval, however, because the vote was needed to pass the motion. It was felt that in the best interest of the church, the issue was closed with a certificate. Chair Schwartz stated that she would discuss the matter further with Tom Johnson.

Andrea made the motion to approve temporary signage for the Thrift Shop of the Community Church in the form of a sandwich board sign or banner. Henry seconded
The motion passed unanimously

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair - Leslie agreed, at the behest of the other members, to serve as chair for another year despite her previously stated unavailability

Vice Chair – Henry Smith kindly agreed to assist her

Secretary – Andrea volunteered her services for another year as secretary

The Commission unanimously voted each other in.

B.Historic Markers

Andrea brought in information on a possible resource for house markers in the district. This Company was a contributor in the NH Preservation Alliance Silent Auction in March 2011. She has spoken with the Company and will invite them to come and speak to the HDC and show them samples of their work to see whether we would like to consider them as a resource for those who would like to have markers on their historic homes.

The contact person is :

Bob Leonard, Ould Colony Artisans, Farmington Maine

He has trained at English Monastery School and their company is the resource for many neighboring towns such as Portsmouth and Exeter that use their signs.

Cost of a wooden sign 12"x16" - \$70

V. Old Business

A. Revised Grange renovation proposal

Deferred until next meeting

B. SMITH CHAPEL

Restoration update

(from Mike Lynch, DPW) The Durham Police pursued a criminal investigation against Mr. Roofs and he will be refunding the money to the Town on Monday June 6.

? are projects bonded with the contractor

? how are the contractors references checked ?

They have negotiated a contract with the "second" company, American Steeple & Tower Co. of Salem Ma. The request to sign the contract with American goes to Town Council for approval on June 6th.

American can start the project mid June with completion around the first week of July.

In addition, on June 6th, Mike Lynch is bringing forward the contract for Robert Nelson (Art Glass of America) from Natick Ma. to the Town Council for approval of the Stained Glass windows. They will start their project right after the roof is finished.

Slate roofing RECYCLING update

Andrea spoke with the Parks & Rec Committee Apr 28 and they would like to work with us and have submitted ideas for uses of the slate. The concern is that school will be ending soon and people will be on vacation.

CLG status update

NHDHR has accepted the LETTER OF INTENT that Andrea and Todd submitted and given the go ahead to proceed with the grant (to fund the architectural historian for the Chapel NR applic.) Andrea completed the CLG grant application and submitted it May 20, 2011. The process takes about 10 weeks.

Moose Plate grants

Andrea has written and submitted two grants - \$10k from Preservation / \$15k from Council on the Arts for restoration of stained glass windows. There are 50 applications to this program and they have 10 grants that can be awarded.
The State will make the decisions in June.

VI. Adjournment @ 8:35P

Andrea moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35p, seconded by Peter Stanhope.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Bodo, Secretary HDC/Heritage Commission
6/2/2011

NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF HDC is Thursday July 7, 2011