

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Council Chambers, City Hall, Claremont at 7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Approved 4/22/2010

Meeting called to order by Chair Messier at 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL:

Present: David Messier, Jason Farrell, Deborah Cutts, Trinity Earle, Catherine MacKenzie, Kristin Kenniston

Absent: John Hall

City Staff: Kelly LeBlanc, Administrative Assistant

Motion to: Accept Meeting Minutes from February 18, 2010 with changes

Made By: Jason Farrell **Second:** Kristin Kenniston **Vote:** Unanimous

I. New Business

- **(5-2010) New Socials Bar & Grill, Claremont, N.H.** – Applicant is requesting approval of one hanging sign. The sign will be approximately 28” X 48.” The applicant is requesting approval for four window decals which are the same logo design as the hanging sign. The window decals will have the appearance of etched glass. These will be approx. 48” long by 12” high. The location will be at 2 Pleasant Street. Tax Map 120, Lot 75, Zone B-1.

Applicant was unable to attend this meeting of the Historic District Commission due to an unexpected engagement

Open Public Hearing

No abutters present

The proposed new sign for *New Socials Bar & Grill* will be in the same location as the old *Sophie & Zekes* sign.

Trinity Earle noted that the sign’s location will be on a corner lot; however the sign itself will not be on the corner of the building

The lights located at 2 Pleasant Street are existing to the property. There will not be additional lighting for sign specific lighting.

Close Public Hearing.

HDC Review Criteria

The Oscar Brown Block Rating was determined to be a 2 of 3 according to the Architectural Inventory.

Constructed in Greek revival Style, this commercial block was built in 1860 by Stage Driver, Oscar Brown

1884- Maps indicate hardware, drug, jewelry and dry goods stores facing Tremont Square. A dwelling was built against the eastern end of the block and a small office on the south end.

David Messier proposed that the HDC updates the Architectural Inventory to reflect a change in rating due to the restoration and renovation of Brown Block.

Chair Messier will write up a brief change.

Due to restoration in 2008, the rating of the building changed from 2 to 3.

Motion: To upgrade Brown Block to a level 3 rated building

Vote: Unanimous Consent

HDC Review Criteria Questions:

Criteria	
1	Cultural – Oscar Brown was a Claremont Businessman, Architectural – was restored to look around its 1930s restoration, Greek Revival Style
2	Sign will follow suit with the conventional downtown theme. Hanging signs, in the last 10 years, have reverted to the original style. Window and hanging signs were both popular in the 1800s
3	N/A
4	Signage will show the building as occupied and in use
5	Signage will provide the old charm of the Pleasant sign
6	Signage not considered a rehabilitation project. The signage is reversible and therefore it passes.

Motion to: Accept application as presented for the hanging sign which will be approximately 28” x 48” and two etched window signs as presented in the application

Made By: Deborah Cutts **Second:** Kristin Kenniston **Vote:** Unanimous

OTHER

Mayor Cutts would like to announce that the city, with the information provided by Adam Burke, will apply to be nominated a Google Fiber Community. The benefit, as a Google Fiber Community, would be high speed fiber optics for Claremont Community. A link can be found on the city website to assist with the application process.

Chair Messier reported on the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Wainshal building

The Preservation Alliance of NH will hold its award ceremony in May

NH Publication – The Old Stonewall – Chair Messier will send a link to the members of the HDC

Motion: to Adjourn.

Made By: Jason Farrell

Second: Deborah Cutts

Vote: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted by,

Kelly LeBlanc