



Historic District Commission Meeting
Thursday, October 26, 2017 7:00 PM
City Hall, Council Chambers

MINUTES
Approved 12/28/2017

Mr. Messier called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and asked for a roll call.

I. Roll Call

Members Present: David Messier, Kristin Kenniston, Richard Wahrlich, Abigail Kier

Absent: Scott Pope

II. Review of Minutes from September 28, 2017

Corrections: None.

Motion: To accept as presented

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston

Second: Mr. Wahrlich

Vote: Mrs. Kier abstained; all others voted in favor

III. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

IV. New Business

- A. HDC 2017-00010 Archetype Signworks, Peterborough NH** – for replacement signage at 11 Main Street. Tax map 120, Lot 41. Zone: MU.

Mr. Messier read the public notice.

Reed Hayes of Archetype Signworks presented the application. Mr. Hayes said the plan is to replace the “Bond” signs at 11 Main Street with “O’Reilly Autoparts”. The “Bond” sign currently appears as red letters on a grey and white checkerboard background that is 4 squares by 6 squares on the front of the building and on a background of 3 squares x 6 squares on the side of the building. The lettering is the same size for both signs.

The “O’Reilly” sign will be white letters on a solid red background that will be the same size as the existing checkerboard (4 x 6 on the front; 3 x 6 on the side). Archetype Signworks is only doing the letters – the red background is not part of their project.

Mr. Messier said he was on the Historic District Commission when the “Bond” sign was presented. He said the Commission at that time felt that the sign was too large for the neighborhood, but that they accepted it because the grey and white checkerboard appeared to be a part of the building and less obtrusive. Mr. Messier said he was concerned however with the new proposal as the red background is far more noticeable than the white and grey checkerboard background. He said the scale of the lettering was acceptable, but the red background for the front of the building was out of scale. The consensus of the Commission was that the 3 squares x 6 squares configuration was a better scale and asked that both signs be on a background of this size.

Mr. Reed said it was not part of his scope of work, but that he would go back and tell the parties what the Commission desired.

The Commission had no further questions.

Mr. Messier opened the public hearing. As no one was present, he closed it.

HDC Criteria	
1. Does the building have historic, architectural or cultural value?	The consensus of the Commission was that there is no known historic, architectural or cultural value in this building.
2. Are the proposed exterior design, arrangement, textures, and materials compatible with the existing buildings or structures and to the setting and surrounding uses?	The proposed materials are the same as what is already there.
3. Are the scale and size of the proposed improvements compatible with the existing surroundings? (including height, width, street frontage, number of stories, roof type, façade openings such as windows, doors, etc., and architectural details)	The Commission agreed that this criterion is not applicable.
4. How will the proposed improvements (signs, lights, yards, off-street parking, screening, fencing, entrance drive, sidewalks, and landscaping) affect the character of any building or structure within the district?	The proposed signage will have a neutral effect on the district.
5. What impact will the proposal have on the setting? To what extent will the proposal help to preserve and enhance the historic, architectural, and cultural qualities of the district and the community?	The proposed signage will have a neutral effect on the setting.
6. Is the proposal in keeping with the Secretary of Interior's Guidelines for Rehabilitation?	There is no rehabilitation involved in this project.

The Commission agreed that there will be no negative effects from this project if the size of the street-facing sign background is reduced in size to 3 squares by 6 squares.

Motion: To approve the application for two signs with the condition that the street-facing sign background be changed to 3 squares by 6 squares. The sign on the side of the building is approved as presented.

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston **Second:** Mrs. Kier

Vote: Unanimous in favor

V. Other

VI. Correspondence

Mrs. Kier, who is currently serving on both the City Council and the Policy Committee, talked about the Council's policy on naming City properties, and how the policy requires consultation with the Historic District Commission if any property to be named is in the historic district.

Mr. Wahrlich said that the Planning Board had approved the site plan for the Goddard Block project. He said that if the project moves forward, it will be coming to the Historic District Commission for further review.

VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston

Second: Mr. Wahrlich

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,
deForest Bearse