



Historic District Commission Meeting
Thursday, September 26, 2013
City Hall, Council Chambers at
7:00 p.m.

Minutes
Approved 11 12 2013

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm

Members Present: David Messier, Kristin Kenniston and Richard Wahrlich

City Staff: Louanne Lewit, Minute Taker

Review of Minutes:

Due to no August 22, 2013 minutes in the packets they will not be reviewed. Mr. Messier remarked that it made more sense to wait until the next meeting anyway.

Old Business:

- **HDC (2013-0003) Laurie Wallace, Kit n' Kaboodle, N.H. – Reconsideration with Receipt of Additional Information** - Applicant is requesting permission for (1) two-sided sign. The sign frame is existing to the building. **Property Location:** 16 Tremont Street Tax Map: 120, Lot: 47, Zone B-1.

Laurie Wallace explained to the historic district commission that her sign maker told her that the current panels are corrugated from the 1960's and that it would cost thousands of dollars to change them. At the last meeting her application for a sign was approved with a dark background with light lettering to allow illumination of the sign. However, when the sign man brought in his boom truck to access the sign it was discovered upon opening it that the ballast was gone. Hence, no lighting. It would all have to be replaced. Ms. Wallace said the whole part of lighting the sign went 'out the window.' The bottom part could potentially be lit but it would require a closer look by an electrician. The wiring has been taken out and it appears that it won't be lit any time soon. The sign man convinced her to do black lettering on a white background. Since she is not lighting the sign she asks that commission reconsider her previous color request. It has always been those colors in the past. Chair Messier said that he had previously asked the City attorney for clarification and was told that the old signs are grandfathered. The City attorney explained that currently there is really no good ordinance regarding older signs and that this should probably be addressed at some future point. Regarding Ms. Wallace's sign, it is correct to say that it is not an abandoned sign. As long as the applicant is not expanding the non-conformity it should be allowed to be used. Chair Messier stated that the fact that Ms. Wallace's sign previously had lighting meant that if she wanted to light it as part of the sign at some future date that Ms. Wallace could do so without having to return to the Historic District Commission for permission.

He further stated that there was no reason to go back through the criteria.

Laurie Wallace again stated that the last time she was here she thought that she wanted black on white but has changed her request to white lettering on black background.

Motion: to accept white background with black lettering

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston

Second: Mr. Wahrlich

Vote: Unanimous

Kristin Kenniston expressed interest in reviewing the July minutes because she wondered if the color combination of the sign back color versus the lettering color was written backwards in the minutes. Chair Messier remarked that the commission has never said that you can have this color or that color. Mr. Wahrlich remembers Chair Messier saying that they do not reject based on color choices. After this discussion Ms. Kenniston suggested approving those July minutes.

Motion: to approve July monthly meeting minutes

Made by: Mrs. Kenniston **Second:** Mr. Warlich **Vote:** Unanimous

Motion: to adjourn

Made by: Mr. Warlich **Second:** Mrs. Kenniston **Vote:** Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by, Louanne Lewit