

Sanbornton Historic District Commission Minutes
December 8, 2020
Meeting via telephone

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Franz Vail at 7:04 PM. The Chair opened the meeting by reading the Covid-19 Meeting Preamble.

The meeting was begun by taking a roll call.

Franz Vail: "No one present."

Sam Swartz: "No one present."

Stuart Dymont: "No one present."

Barbara Whetstone: "No one present."

Joe and Maria Hadad, Sanbornton residents, were welcomed on the phone call.

Nina Gardner, Tim Cline and Jim Dick were not present.

Franz designated Barbara to serve as a voting member to allow for a quorum. Barbara agreed to take meeting minutes.

Meeting discussion began with new business.

The status of the Hadad fence on Tower Hill road was discussed. Stuart asked if the fence was temporary and Joe responded that it had cement footings. Maria reported they installed the fence without contacting the Commission because they interpreted the guidelines as indicating they did not need to do so because the fence did not abut a neighbor and was not visual from the road. Joe reported the prior existing fence was part chain link and white plastic and was falling apart. The new fence is black aluminum which appears to be wrought iron. Sam expressed that he thought the new fence was an improvement but said the purpose of the fencing should be brought to the Commission. Stuart asked if anything could be done to make the fence look more historically correct. Franz stated the Hadad house has gone through many changes, each being done of that period, and the fence was a vast improvement from the old fence although not historically correct but he had no problem with the fence.

Franz asked, "Do we want to take any action?" A recommendation was made to plant some bushes to break up the look of the fence. Maria reported wanting to do the right thing and would come to the Commission in the future with any changes, mentioning a garage which needed work. Sam will research ideas for making the fence look more historic by adding a decoration to the tops of the posts.

Franz asked "What could we do to inform owners in the district to meet with the Commission prior to making changes to their properties. Barbara suggested contacting real estate agents when a house goes on the market to educate them; to provide info about the regulations to new owners; and to send a letter to present owners regarding the need to contact the Commission when making changes to their property. Franz said we should wait for Nina and Jim to be present to further discuss outreach.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of October 13, 2020 by Sam. Seconded by Barbara. Franz, Stuart and Sam voted to accept the minutes. Barbara was not present for that meeting so did not vote. A motion was then made to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020 by Sam. Seconded by Barbara. Franz, Stuart and Sam voted to accept the minutes.

Franz reported the State Division of Historic Resources has encouraged the Commission to send an application for the next CLG grant round to conduct three workshops as a follow up to Mae Williams' updated report on the 94 properties in the historic district. A forty percent match may be required thus we may need to cut back to two workshops. Franz and Sam will have a conference call at 1:00 PM on December 11th with the State Division of Historic Resources to talk about the grant application. He suggested the workshops be planned for the spring of 2022.

Franz talked about a buyer of land on Winchester Drive right of way who is proposing to build a log home. The Commission agreed to having Franz contact the owner to discuss the Sanbornton Historic District guidelines prior to the owner initiating construction. A log home is not of the period of most homes in the district. The new

owner will need to submit plans to the Commission before being granted a building permit by the town.

Barbara requested a change in meeting time and date because she is a member of the Recreation Commission which also meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7PM. This will be brought up with Nina and Jim because they both have busy schedules and other meeting commitments.

At 8:30 PM Sam made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Barbara seconded the motion. Role call was unanimous to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Whetstone, alternate member, acting secretary for tonight.