

Sanbornton Historic District Commission
Meeting Minutes
Town Offices-June 12, 2018
573 Sanborn Road
Sanbornton, New Hampshire
7:00 P.M.

The Meeting was Called to Order by the Chair, Franz Vail, at 7:00 P.M.

The following members were in attendance; Franz Vail, Nina Gardner, Stuart Dymont, Linda Salatiello, Alternate, and Tom Salatiello, Selectman representative. Also present were Jim Dick, Tim Cline and Sam Swartz, resident of Meetinghouse Hill Rd.

Seating of Alternate member. Due the lack of full voting members as appointed by the Board of Selectmen, the Chair called for the seating of the alternate member to be designated a voting member for the meeting. On a Motion made by Nina Gardner, seconded by Stuart Dymont, Linda Salatiello, alternate member, was designated a voting member for the meeting. The vote was unanimous.

Nina Gardner offered to serve as Secretary for the meeting while the Chair determined what kinds of support services were available to the Commission.

Approval of Minutes of prior meeting. The Minutes of the February 13, 2018 were distributed and discussed. One correction had been made to the Minutes, a spelling error, which had been noted when the Minutes were first distributed after the meeting. On a Motion made by Linda Salatiello, seconded by Stuart Dymont, the amended Minutes of the February 13, 2018 meeting were approved. The vote was unanimous with Franz Vail and Tom Salatiello abstaining.

Old Business. The first item discussed was the issue of the non-compliance with the district guidelines of the Hebert Property 618 Sanborn Road. This issue was addressed via letter sent to the Heberts on September 27, 2017. No response to that letter was received by the Historic District Commission. On February 13, 2018 the Historic District Commission met to discuss the non-compliance and voted to forward the matter to the Board of Selectmen for their review and enforcement. It was not clear if the matter had been handled at that level and whether the recently installed wrought iron fence was meant to be the compliance with the ordinance.

Tom Salatiello expressed concern that when the matter was first brought to the attention of the Board of Selectmen in September, they should have acted. Nina Gardner explained that in discussing the issue, the Board had determined that they should not proceed with any action unless there was non-compliance. Tom Salatiello stated he would follow up on the issue as would the Chair. By way of background, the Commission reviewed the September 27, 2017 letter to the Heberts and the February 2018 memo to the Board of Selectmen.

Second item-town support for Commission. Franz Vail had spoken with the Planner/Code Enforcement Officer and Town Administrator and as first steps there had been assistance in getting the meeting properly scheduled. Franz also had obtained the Chairman's book and building pass key for the meeting. Certainly there were additional discussions needed as to what support there would be relative to reviewing applications, notifying the Board of issues and support staff, such as a secretary. It was noted that with a budget of \$250 there was likely little administrative support available.

Third item- Citizens who had expressed an interest in serving on the Commission. Present were Jim Dick and Tim Cline, both of whom had submitted a volunteer application form for membership on the Commission.

Franz Vail invited each to speak. Jim Dick explained that it was character of the Historic District that made the town seem unique to him and was part of what drew him to the town. He noted that he purchased the home of Debbie Aberg on Hunkins Pond Road his past Fall. He indicated that he had spent 30 years in the Navy. He has also become involved in the town with the Library Trustees. He wants to help maintain that special feeling that the District creates for the town.

Next to speak was Tim Cline who lives on Sanborn Road in the District in the old Wiggins property across from the Post Office. Tim moved to town in 2013 and is a patron of Colonial Williamsburg and studies architecture as a pastime. He is also a member of Historic New England. He too wants to help maintain the vitality of the District.

Stuart Dyment stated that Tim Cline lives in the property he owns in the Square and wanted to make certain that was known and that this fact raised no concerns.

Franz explained to both candidates that there is a need to delicately balance getting folks in the district to comply with the Ordinance which consists of Guidelines and Standards. We need to help folks understand the reasons for the District and for these Guidelines.

Both Jim Dick and Tim Cline expressed a willingness to serve as a fulltime member if appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Franz Vail will communicate this information to the Board of Selectmen. There was general consensus that there are five full voting members of the Commission, a selectmen representative and two alternates.

Other Business- Nina Gardner stated that she had an idea about trying to host an event with residents of the Historic District and the Commission and perhaps the Historical Society, to explain the role of the Commission. She noted that there have been and continue to be so many properties in the District being sold, that people moving in are hardly aware of what the District is and why it exists. There was a good discussion of this idea which is an offshoot of the two grant applications that the District had considered previously. Franz Vail expressed his concerns about the process that had been involved with the grants. This seemed to be a step toward bringing folks in the District together. A potential timeline was discussed with the sense that there would need to be time to plan and have discussions with others who might wish to be involved. Spring 2019 would most likely be the earliest this could be undertaken.

Stuart Dyment raised the issue of the new road sign in the Historic District on Route 132 (Sanborn Road) designating a driveway location as Winchester Street. He noted it is not in conformity with HDC Guidelines and town zoning regulations. Franz Vail will bring this matter to the attention of the Board of Selectmen, via the Town Administrator,

The next meeting of the Commission was set for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. If there are applications for review and discussion, additional meetings will be called by the Chair.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Linda Salatiello, seconded by Stuart Dyment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Nina Gardner, Acting Secretary