

**TOWN OF GILMANTON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
ACADEMY BUILDING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011 – 7 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Allen Everett, Deborah Chase, Ella Jo Regan, George Carpenter, & Don Guarino (Selectmen's Rep)
Land Use Clerk – Annette Andreozzi

Absent: George Roberts (alternate)

Chairman Everett opened the meeting at 7: 02 PM with introductions.

Public Hearing on change to the "sign" portion of the Gilmanton Historic District Regulations.

There was a discussion relating to minor wording changes in the proposed new sign regulation.

John Funk stated his preference that the regulation be consistent through out with the wording. Also, at some point the HDC will have to make a distinction between signs and devices.

Ms. Regan moved to close the public hearing. Seconded by Ms. Chase.

Motion passed unanimously.

The proposed regulation was adapted to read as follows:

C. **SIGNS** *All signs visible from the exterior must have HDC approval. Signs shall not exceed nine square feet. Signs placed on the exterior of the building or on the grounds shall be made of painted wood and shall be designed and hung in a manner appropriate to the buildings or grounds involved.*

Advertisement by a retail or commercial establishment of a product on a machine or apparatus located outside of a building may be allowed by the commission if it determines that such machine or apparatus must be located outside because of the nature of the product. The machine or apparatus and the advertisement must be harmonious with the period of the building and the district.

A sign that is located in the interior of any building, that is visible from the outside of the building, shall not be allowed, except that if a retail or commercial establishment proposes to place any sign in any window or door for purposes of advertising or otherwise, such sign may be allowed by the commission if it determines that the sign is harmonious with the period of the building and the district.

In no event shall the sign, itself, include lighting of any kind. However, a sign may be illuminated by a detached shielded light with the approval of the commission.

Signs dating houses shall be one clapboard wide and no longer than fifteen inches. They shall be painted the same color as the siding. The preferred placement is next to the cornerboard beneath the first line of clapboards above the ground floor windows. If the word "circa" is to be used, it should be abbreviated "c." and not "ca." or "cir."

Ms. Chase moved to approve the sign portion of the HDC regulation as read [printed above]. Ms. Regan seconded the motion.

Mr. Carpenter expressed concern for how the regulation was going to be enforced in the future.

Mr. Everett indicated that the selectmen have the enforcing power.

Ms. Regan stated that people living in the district choose to buy in, and the HDC needs to solicit the Selectmen to add their weight.

Motion passed with one abstention.

Approval of January 4, 2011 Minutes

Motion by Ms. Regan to accept the minutes with one correction.

Second by Mr. Carpenter. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Review of any photos that may be submitted for posting on web page.

None were submitted.

Other Business.

Mr. Everett looked at the object in Mr. Vaughan lawn that was referenced by George Roberts at the January meeting. Mr. Everett stated it looked like a miniature Washington monument, but it is not bigger than HDC regulation IV-A allows.

The letter about signs, in the packet, written by Mr. Flanders, code enforcement officer, was pointed out.

Mr. Everett stated that at the town budget hearing, Steve Latici, Corner District treasurer, said they are not planning to disband the Corner District. The District is responsible for lighting in the district, but the co-op does not have access to more pie plate lighting fixtures.

George Carpenter will be retiring from the HDC. Members expressed appreciation for his contributions.

Commissioners need to be active recruiters for new commission members.

Next month will be the annual election of the HDC chair.

Ms. Regan moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Chase.
All in favor.

Adjourn at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Andreozzi
Land Use Clerk