

**TOWN OF GILMANTON  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
ACADEMY BUILDING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011 – 7 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Allen Everett, Deborah Chase, Don Guarino (Selectmen's Rep), Ernie Hudziec (alternate)  
Land Use Clerk – Annette Andreozzi

**Absent:** Ella Jo Regan, George Roberts

Chairman Everett opened the meeting at 7:02PM with introductions. Mr. Hudziec was seated as a voting member.

**Informal meeting relating to sign; Chris Keith, owner.** Property located at 541 Meetinghouse Road in the Meetinghouse Historic District; Town Tax Map/Lot # 414/61.

Mr. Keith wanted to put up a sign on his property. He presented a picture for the file, which adheres to the HDC regs. The yellow on the machine on the sign will be more the color of Caterpillar yellow.

There was a discussion on the regs relating to signs, which have no colors stated, 9 sq. feet or smaller, and just painted wood.

Mr. Keith stated that the sign post will be 4 x 4 painted white, 5-6 feet off the ground. Across the top will be a wooden 4 x 4 or black iron bracket as pictured.

Ms. Chase was concerned about the font not being compatible with the district. Mr. Guarino said that the regs don't say anything about the font. Ms. Chase said that the regs state it has to be harmonious with the district. Mr. Keith stated that the Brick house has a plastic sign, and wanted to know if that was harmonious.

Mr. Keith said there is nothing in the regs that say what the font must be. His sign will be his company logo because people need to recognize where his business is based, and the sign is to generate business. Where he will place it cannot be seen from any house. The sign will be uphill of the barn driveway on the road side of the stone wall.

Ms. Chase stated that the question was the font, everything else about the sign was good. Mr. Adel may have a font that would be a minor adjustment that would suit the historic district.

Mr. Everett read the intro to the HDC regs: "Because of the exceptional unity of architectural design present in Gilmanton, it shall be the duty of the Commission to

protect this unity by requiring that all exterior changes, additions, new construction and land usage conform as much as possible to the standards”.

Mr. Keith said that the chisel marked date on his house looks like his sign’s font. A chisel would make straighter letters rather than curved. A woodworker would make a chiseled K like the drawing.

Mr. Everett said that Mr. Keith’s logo is what people look for.

Mr. Hudziec appreciated the consistence between business cards and sign with the logo.

Mr. Guarino said he was torn; the sign looks great.

Mr. Everett mentioned that there were real estate signs all over Meetinghouse road that the HDC couldn’t say anything about. Mr. Keith has met all the regs. The HDC wants to encourage owner businesses in the district. The signs of the 1820’s would not have had words, just a picture.

**Motion:**

**Mr. Hudziec moved to approve the drawing of a sign for KB Earthworks to be placed uphill of the barn driveway on the road side of the stone wall at 541 Meetinghouse Road in the Meetinghouse Historic District; Town Tax Map/Lot # 414/61. The font is allowed due to the already existing KB logo consistency with business cards and truck painting. This approval is not to be construed as setting a precedent for the use of the sign’s style of font.**

Seconded by Ms. Chase.

Mr. Guarino stated that the motion made it clear that someone can’t just put up a modern style sign in the historic districts.

Ms. Chase said that this sign was reinforcing an already existing branding.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Approval of Minutes**

September 6, 2011

September 8, 2011

September 27, 2011

**Motion by Mr. Everett to accept minutes as amended.** Seconded by Mr. Guarino. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Other Business.**

Ms. Chase brought up that the regs or guidelines do not tell the applicant that they can expect to pay for an expert if the HDC feels an expert opinion is needed. Also the guidelines should state the decision time limit.

The clerk will write something for the guidelines to be considered at the next HDC meeting. It was also felt that the use of the words repair, reconstruction, renovation, and restoration should be looked at. Other town regulations for demolition will also be reviewed.

The clerk suggested that the intro to the regs be revised as a purpose statement.

Ms. Chase was concerned about the A-frame sign at the Brick house. A letter will be sent stating that sign may only announce special events.

Ms. Chase was concerned about flags around the districts and said that the intent of an "open" flags is to be a sign saying you are open, so it should be covered by the sign reg.

**Mr. Hudziec moved to adjourn.** Second by Mr. Everett.  
**All in favor.**

Adjourn at 8:39PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette Andreozzi  
Land Use Clerk