

**TOWN OF GILMANTON  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
ACADEMY BUILDING  
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015 – 7 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chair Ernie Hudziec, Allen Everett, Matt Grasberger,  
**Also present:** Annette Andreozzi (Land Use Admin.), Roy Buttrick  
**Absent:** Betty Ann Abbott, Don Guarino (Selectmen's Rep)

Chair Hudziec opened the meeting at 7:05 PM. He asked Mr. Ronstadt in the audience to speak.

Robert Ronstadt said he lived at 506 Province Road. He wanted to do a new roof and exterior painting of the building in the same white color. The roof would be forest green architectural shingles.

Mr. Hudziec said what he wanted to do was a repair; Mr. Ronstadt came to the meeting for informational purposes. He stated that there was a consensus of the Board that no motion or action was required by the Commission.

Mr. Hudziec said the Commission should have standard accepted colors for paint and roofs, or allow the Chair to make a decision on a change in color so owners do not have to apply to the HDC.

There was a discussion of colors for the historic districts for paint and roofs.

**Approval of Minutes** May 27, 2015.

**Motion by Mr. Everett to accept minutes as presented.** Seconded by Mr. Grasberger. **Motion passed unanimously.**

It was announced that Mr. Buttrick had been appointed by the Selectmen and sworn in as a Planning Board representative and full member to the HDC. Mr. Hudziec stated that since the Commission had 5 full members and according to the motion passed at Town Meeting March 1994, the HDC could only have 5 full members. Mr. Buttrick could only be accepted as an alternate. The 1994 motion stated that the Commission would have 5 members, one of which was the Selectmen's Representative and no mention of a Planning Board Rep.

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When Historic District Commissions were originally allowed by the NH Legislature the RSA required a Planning Board Rep. The Planning Board Rep. requirement had since been dropped from the RSA.

There was a discussion with the planning board rep. of the inaccurate opinions of what the HDC does and can do.

There was a discussion that a majority of the Selectmen want to abolish the historic districts. Mr. Grasberger asked why. There was no reason given. Mr. Hudziec stated that people make inaccurate statements that then become a witch hunt.

Mr. Buttrick said it started with the corner store owner saying he could not change the door to prevent heat loss because the HDC would not permit it. Mr. Everett and Ms. Andreozzi both stated that no one ever came before the HDC, or the office with that request. There is a record of all applications that have been made. Anyone can review those records.

Mr. Hudziec stated that no set of laws are perfect that is the reason the HDC is going through the regulations, to address issues, particularly if a proposed change would not be visible to the public. He stated that the Commission is looking at the regulations of other HDC's in hopes of finding a solution to the problem of district owners who have not being willing to make an HDC application and show up. He said that after the Commission agrees on any regulation wording change there would be a public hearing.

Mr. Buttrick stated the Selectmen wanted a planning member on the HDC so they would know what is happening.

Mr. Hudziec said there does seem to be a lack of communication in the town government.

It was observed that the Selectmen would need to make an appointment for Mr. Buttrick as an alternate.

Mr. Buttrick said some historic places he has seen have vinyl. He would like the HDC to allow vinyl.

Mr. Hudziec stated that studies show that wood properly maintained will outlast aluminum and vinyl.

There was a short discussion of RSA 91A.

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Mr. Buttrick stated that he had heard that there was only one time in the year that work could be done in the historic districts. He was informed that that was not true.

The letter from Mr. Gardner about changes to the regulations was reviewed as well as Mr. Hudziec's suggestions. It was agreed that any additional suggestions should be submitted to the office by August 23.

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

Adjourn at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette Andreozzi  
Land Use Administrator

