

**Town of Effingham, New Hampshire
Historic District Commission**

**Public Hearing Minutes
Lord's Hill Historic District
Lord's Hill Fire Station (Fire Station #1)
596 Province Lake Road, Effingham
September 19, 2016**

Present: E. Chick (Chair), S. Finn (Assistant Chair), E. Jones (Secretary), H. Spencer (Selectmen's Representative)

Absent: None.

The public hearing was called to order by the Chair at 6:30 p.m.

Members of the public in attendance were: J. Murphy, J. Earle, S. Jones, R. O'Neal, L. & J. McConnell, R. Burbank.

The Chair first explained that this was a public hearing required by state RSAs to be held in the historic district for the purpose of accepting questions and/or comments from the public on the proposed changes to the Historic District Regulations. Since Effingham is somewhat unique in the state in that we have two separate historic districts, two public hearings, one in each district, must be held. The second public hearing is scheduled to be held later in the evening at the Effingham Public Library. The Chair further explained that the process by which the hearings would be conducted would be the same and members of the public were welcome to attend one or both hearings. Following the conclusion of the second public hearing, the Commission would then consider any action to be taken, whether that be to approve the changes, delay the changes, disapprove the changes, etc.

The Chair then explained the process by which the Public Hearings would be conducted. The proposed Historic District Regulations, copies of which were available for all in attendance, would be reviewed page by page, and questions and/or comments would be taken as each page was reviewed. Once the entire proposed document was reviewed, the Public Hearing would be adjourned at Lord's Hill so that the Commission could move to the Effingham Public Library for the second public hearing.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 2. There were no comments. It was noted by the Chair that there were five missing commas, two in the first paragraph after each close parenthesis and three in the second paragraph, after each instance of "and/or fencing."

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 3. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 4. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 5. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 6. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 7. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 8. J. Earle clarified that no review would be required for composite materials under #16 – Steps, Walks, and Patios. The Commission concurred that his understanding of that section was correct.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 9. J. Earle noted that the word composite, as used in #23 – Composite Materials may mean something different to a contractor/builder than it does to a lay person. In addition, he noted under #25 – Demolition that there are no licensing requirements for contractors/builders in the State of New Hampshire.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 10. J. McConnell inquired about the section on demolition and debris removal.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 11. R. O’Neal asked about the amount of the penalty. The Secretary explained why the Commission wants to simply reference the applicable RSA rather than provide the specific dollar amounts.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 12. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 13. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 14. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 15. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 16. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 17. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 18. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 19. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 20. There were no comments.

The Chair reviewed the changes to page 21. There were no comments.

The Chair, noting that the Commission needed to proceed to the Effingham Public Library for the second public hearing, advised those in attendance that the period for comments would have to be ended but reminded them again that the process at the second public hearing would be the same, that additional comments and questions could be heard at that time and that all members of the public were welcome and encouraged to attend both hearings. Those in attendance were also advised that at the conclusion of the second public hearing, the Commission could choose to approve all proposed changes, approve some changes but not others, approve no changes, delay approval until further research can be undertaken, and/or continue the public hearing to another time. Should the public hearing be continued, the date, time, and place of the continued hearing would be announced at the conclusion of the second public hearing and that no further notice is required, though it may be provided.

The Chair also asked that, in order to assist the Commission and the Fire Department with the cleanup and securing of the building, each person be responsible for collapsing and removing to the outside of the building, their folding chair, so that the chairs could be returned to the Municipal Offices from whom they were borrowed.

The public hearing was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Jones
Secretary