

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

**Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2018**

Present: E. Chick (Chair), E. Jones (Assistant Chair), (Secretary), J. Meisner (Selectmen's Representative)

Absent: S. Finn (Secretary)

Others Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Chair.

Election of Officers: A motion, by Erik Jones, to appoint Elaine Chick as Chair, second by John Meisner. All were in favor, Elaine accepted. A motion, by Elaine Chick, to appoint Erik Jones as Assistant Chair, seconded by John Meisner. Erik accepted. A motion by Erik Jones to appoint Sandy Finn Secretary, seconded by John Meisner. Pending Sandy's acceptance.

Review of Minutes: Review of March 2018 minutes, postponed until next meeting due to lack of quorum from that meeting.

Correspondence: Effingham Preservation Society Street Fair on June 23rd. Karen Payne asked if anyone from the Historic District Commission would like to participate.

Old Business

1) Historic District Signs.

The Historic Register placards have been installed. No further action is required. This topic to be removed from Old Business.

2) Historic Roadside Marker for the Effingham Town Hall building.

State application pending. No news.

3) Potential members/vacancies on the Commission.

No update. Vacancies to fill, one full seat and two alternate seats.

4) Lord's Tavern: Failure to obtain Certificate of Approval.

Mr. Castriotta has been in contact with the Town's attorney and has made an offer to settle: The house has been restored to its prior condition the old door has been reinstalled. Mr. Castriotta has agreed to pay the legal fees totally \$2,300 and \$500 in fines. A memo will be sent to the Selectboard from the HDC requesting the Selectboard approve this action. J. Meisner will address at Tuesday's Selectboard meeting. No further action.

- 5) Creation of a Master List of Data for Historic District Properties.

No further progress to date.

- 6) HDC regulation violation involving installation of solar panels without Certificate of Approval.

Mr. Eric Hollister submitted an application for Certificate of Approval for the solar panel installation on his home. The Commission and the applicant discussed what took place and discussed possible solutions from complete removal to relocation and ultimately arrived at a compromise. A motion was made by Erik and seconded by Elaine for a special exception with conditions. The galvanized west facing side roof will be painted black to reduce the obvious visibility of the panels on that side. The property owner will provide a plan of action within 30 days.

- 7) Rules of Procedure ~ Review and Revision

Postponed review of the Rules of Procedure until Sandy Finn returns at the next meeting.

New Business

- 1) Heidi Foy came before the Commission to ask if a split rail fence along the side of her property requires a Certificate of Approval. Initially, she had asked about a picket fence but has changed her mind. She now wants a split rail fence to hide her livestock fencing. The Commission agreed that a split rail fence meets the criteria of a wooden fence and does not require a Certificate of Approval.
- 2) Mary Martin came before the board asking about a railing on her farmers porch. Her insurance is requiring she install a railing where the porch is greater than 24" above-grade. She plans to raise the grade but there a section in the back that may still require a railing. The Commission agreed that a railing for safety and insurance purposes does not require a Certificate of Approval.
- 3) Town Hall Library meeting- Elaine mentioned the library trustees and the Selectmen are meeting on Wednesday night at 6:30 PM at the library, to discuss repairs to the old town hall, windows, grants and other topics. Interested parties are invited to attend.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion to adjourn was made by E. Jones. Seconded J. Meisner. All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Chick
Chairman