

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

**Meeting Minutes  
October 10, 2022**

**Members Present:** Susan Slack (Chair), Lenny Espie (Selectmen's Representative), Maria Crockett

**Members Absent:** Erik Jones, Mike Conti (Secretary), Chris Garcia (Alternate)

**Guests Present:** Jason Earle

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by the Chair.

**Review of Minutes:** The minutes of the September 12, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Espie moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Crockett seconded. Motion passed unanimously and carried.

**Correspondence (see letter from Jason Earle below):**

- Jason Earle presented summary of maintenance improvements to his porch on 607 Province Lake Road. He requested the HDC's input on this project to determine if it would be considered "maintenance" or if a Certificate of Approval was required.
- Committee discussed and asked questions regarding the project.
- Committee reviewed the existing regulations.
- Mr. Espie moved to accept the project as maintenance, no CoA required, Ms. Slack seconded, motion passed unanimously and carried.
- Noted: The Committee agreed to clarify "maintenance" during the HDC Regulations Review during the November meeting.

**Old Business:**

- Ms. Crockett confirmed that Matt and Faith Torrisi are interested in serving as new alternates; they recently moved to Effingham and reside in the Lord's Hill Historic District at 573 Province Lake Road.
  - **Action:** Ms. Crockett to provide an email address for the Torrisi's.
- **Update on Outreach Letter:**
  - **Action:** Ms. Crockett to follow up with Mr. Jones to request email with the updated letter for review by the committee; goal is to finalize and send out by next meeting.
- **Historic District Commission Regulations:**
  - Review of Mr. Jones breakdown of changes; several questions raised and require further discussion to clarify items such as maintenance, signs, stone walls, etc.
  - Ms. Slack recommended we reference/review the Wakefield Heritage Commission guidelines, available at <https://www.wakefieldnh.com/heritage-commission>.
  - Committee agreed to have a working session and finalize the regulations during the November meeting.

- **Updating HDC Website:**

- Ms. Slack commented that changes have been made to the HDC website; however, some of the minutes are still missing; also under FAQs, time of monthly meetings still say 7 pm instead of 6 pm.
  - **Action:** Ms. Slack to ask Teresa about the minutes and linking to the site.

**New Business:**

1. Ms. Slack noted that the 2023 Budget will be reviewed during the Budget Committee Meeting October 25, 6 pm. All welcome to attend.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, November 14, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Slack. Seconded by Ms. Crockett. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*María Crockett*  
Member

\*Correspondence, see below:

TO: Susan Slack, Chair  
Effingham Historic District Commission

FROM: Jason Earle

RE: 607 Province Lake Road

DATE: September 21, 2022

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing to bring to your attention a project at my house. It involves maintenance and improvements to my porch. Portions of the work, outside the purview of the commission given visibility, have been underway following a previously-obtained building permit. I am now seeking to complete part of the work that does involve visibility from the road.

The porch is a shed roof on posts, above a decked surface that has been enclosed by storms a/o storms. The construction pre-dates the district and is a truncated version of an original (1947) porch. For many years I have had some form of three-season use employing screen panels, storm panels, and plastic over screens. I have on two occasions 'down-cycled' salvaged screens to maintain this set-up.

I am now planning to change the type and arrangement of screens/door, and set storm/screen panels above a low kneewall, instead of full-height as currently. The visible elevation will be the north wall of the porch and will involve a window opening on either side of a centered door. (This door is located to take advantage of the existing large granite steps that have not been in use since the house was rebuilt following the 1947 fire.)

At this time I plan to wrap the cement-filled metal columns, creating a look more consistent with a New England porch than the current 'carport' effect the roof over posts implies. Trim details would be consistent with a recent project I completed at the Socha residence. I believe they would be an improvement to the present look, and be in keeping with an appurtenant feature of a house of this style in the district. My house has been recorded and described as 'non-contributing' given the age and vinyl siding. There is, thus, less of a clear period of historical precedence to follow.

I would appreciate your input on this project and whether it would be considered a maintenance activity versus an alteration needing a Certificate of Approval.

Best



Jason Earle