

HILLSBOROUGH, NH HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
April 6, 2023

TIME: 6:03 p.m.

LOCATION: Center Club

MEMBERS: Deanna Neal, Jay Emmert, Pat Bradley

Also Present: Laurie Jutzi, Melinda Gehris, Kay Bennett, Steve Bennett

OPEN SESSION:

The HDC Committee is looking for new members to be on the commission. Potential members should be nominated and the Board of Selectmen makes the final appointments.

NEW BUSINESS:

Quorum check was held. Jay made the motion that the minutes from November 3, 2022, be approved. Deanna seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Jay and Pat submitted a multipage document outlining suggestions for desirable fencing and fencing that would not be appropriate in the Historic District. (See Attachment #A) It is based very closely on similar wording in the Amherst Historic District suggested guidelines for fencing. Discussion of the fence guidelines was tabled until input from Robyn Payson was obtained.

Robyn Payson will be invited to attend the next meeting to address her concerns about the proposed guidelines.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was discussion of the fact History Alive was not planned to take place in the Center until 2025, and then it is hoped that it will take place in the spring to include more local families and children. History Alive will take place solely in Jones Road on the regular designated weekend in August. The committee is being led by Jon Daley, Traci Blain and Don Walker.

Melinda Announced the NHOPD Virtual Spring Planning and Zoning Conference taking place on April 29, 2023, and encouraged any interested parties to register to attend virtually or access the material after the fact. There will be five tracks, one of which addresses Historic Preservation.

Melinda announced the opening of a new Town sponsored Thrift Shop which is soliciting donations, the proceeds of which will be used to support the community.

Adjournment:

Deanna moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Pat and passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Laurie Jutzi

Deanna Neal

Pat Bradley

Jay Emmert

DATE APPROVED:

Exhibit "A"

Fences

Regulations

Existing fences that resemble their historic styles shall only be replaced in kind. New fences intended to replace missing fences shall reproduce the historic style whenever possible, provided sufficient documentary evidence exists. Information of this kind is available on the internet.

Design Standards

- 1) Every effort should be made to leave historic fences, walls, posts and granite site features, including but not limited to mounting blocks, undisturbed.
- 2) New fences or walls shall be simple in design and shall compliment the materials and design of the building(s) on site and the character of the site itself. Fences and walls along the street frontage shall be no higher than four feet, unless it can be documented that a higher fence existed historically.

Guidelines

Fence applications should include clear photographs, sketched and/or drawings that depict the exact location and accurately represent the proposed product.

- 1) A fence is an architectural feature that should enhance the character of the house, street and Historic District. The fence should be in harmony with the style of the house. Acceptable fenced include post and rail, picket, baluster. Unacceptable styles are chain link of any color, wire, masonry, lattice, basket weave and board on board. Please reference the accompanying photos for some acceptable as well as unacceptable fence designs.
- 2) The height of the fence and the size of the various members and spacing between pickets, rails, and posts shall be appropriate to the style chosen. Gates shall be of the same style as the fence to which they are attached, unless otherwise documented historically.

The best side of the fence shall face out from the property. Fencing should not restrict the views of neighboring residential properties.

Any fence along the front of a building should always continue with the same style of fencing on the property sides (lines) as far as visible.

While paint colors are neither regulated nor subject to HDC review, the HDC is happy to serve as a resource if you are looking for information about historically accurate paint color. Colors should be consistent with that of the balance of the district and should be presented in a conventional manner. Unconventional colors or color combinations are discouraged.



Two views of acceptable fencing and gate.



Views of split rail and picket fencing. Both acceptable style



View of post and rail and of custom recreation of historically accurate fence.



Two styles of unacceptable fencing (chain link and stockade)



Two more styles of unacceptable stockade.



A fresh coat of a suitable color would transform this fence from unacceptable to acceptable.