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# Historic Districts Commission Minutes Joint Meeting with Design and Review Board December 20, 2017

Members present: Fred Taylor (Chair), Linda G. Hawes, William Andreas and Frank Riepe.

DRB Members present: Daniel A. Martin (Chair), Jennifer Koffel, Deborah B. Kruskal and Susan Vollaro.

Others present: Saulo Stewart, Roberto Viola Ochoa, Griff Noble and Jim Kelly, Facilities Director.

Motion made, seconded and voted to hold a joint session meeting with the Design and Review Board.

### **New Business:**

1. Public Hearing – Case 17-26, Applicant Jim Kelly, Facilities Director, 75 & 77 Hudson Road (Town Assessor's Map G08-0008). For a Certificate of Appropriateness for new wall signs at Police Station and Fire Station.

Jim Kelly, Combined Facilities Director, thanked the HDC and DRB for holding a joint meeting and added that it was a great idea to have both boards discussing his request on the same night.

Mr. Kelly presented proposed signs for the Police and Fire Stations. He said that after the opening of the new police station people were having a difficulty finding the main entrance for both buildings. For this reason, he would like to install additional signs for each building. He said that he had worked with the Fire and Police Chiefs to get their input.

Mr. Martin stated the fire station sign seems appropriate in size and location and he had no objections.

The DRB members suggested that the front door of the fire station be painted to match the sign color.

There was some discussion about placement of the sign at the side entrance and how visible this would be.

Mr. Andreas suggested that the font match the font on the standing sign.



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Mr. Kelly noted that the few parking spaces would be located right across the main-side fire station and the sign on top of the door would help residents.

Both boards made the same motion to approve the fire station signs as shown in the application with the following condition:

• The entrance door and sign will be painted red to match the freestanding sign in front of the building.

Both boards voted unanimously to approve.

Regarding the police station, Mr. Kelly proposed a sign on the front of the building with letters to match the color of the trim and a sign with the police department's seal for the side of the building.

Mr. Riepe said that he felt having just the letters would be appropriate. If the letters have a background, this will increase the size of the sign.

A member from the DRB asked for clarification about the size of the signs in relation to the frontage of the buildings.

Mr. Kelly reminded the members that public building sings are exempt in the bylaws and they do not have a size limit. He said, however, that they try to comply with the norm even though they are not required to do so.

A motion was made by both boards to approve the police signs as shown in the materials submitted with the following conditions:

- The font of the new sign on the right front of the building will be changed to match the font of the existing sign over the front door.
- Sign #2 of the four signs presented for consideration will be used. (See pictures in materials for numbering.) The letters of the sign will be painted white to match the color of the trim.
- The patch sign on the large side atrium window is approved as shown but with depth to the materials added.

Both boards unanimously approved the request as shown in the application and materials submitted.

2. Public Hearing – Case 17-28, Applicants Shawn & James King, 29-3 Hudson Road (Town Assessor's Map H09-0002). For a Certificate of Appropriateness for a new sign for "Kings Corner Barber Shop" and a lighting fixture.

Representing the applicants, Shawn Price explained that the barbershop has new owners



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and the shop now has only a directory sign. The new owners would like to replace the directory sign with King's Corner Barbershop, the new name of the business. They are also requesting approval for gooseneck lamp lighting.

Members of the HDC and DRB liked the design and color selection of the sign. It was noted that it matches the color of the door.

A member of the HDC suggested that the gooseneck lamps match the other gooseneck lamps in the plaza. It was suggested that the owners coordinate this with the landlord and get a building permit to install.

Both boards unanimously approved the request as shown in the application with the following condition:

- There should be 2-3 gooseneck lamps that should match the design, size and placement of those of the other stores at 29 Hudson Rd.
- 3. Public Hearing Case 17-29, Applicants Gabriela Marquez & Roberto Viola Ochoa, 17 Concord Road (Town Assessor's Map K08-0086). For a Certificate of Appropriateness for changes to the front of the building and signs.

### Application for signs.

Mr. Viola presented plans for a building wall sign and a freestanding sign.

Neither board had issues with the wall sign.

It was the opinion of the DRB and Frank Riepe that the freestanding sign as presented could not be approved because it is nonconforming. (There is insufficient frontage and the base of the sign exceeds what is permitted in the bylaws--the 40% rule.) Also, the name, ownership, and type of store have changed and it therefore is a non-continued use (having previously been a jewelry store and a salon). It was suggested by a DRB member that without the lettering the "sign" could be considered artwork and approved as such. Mr. Viola thought the owner might want to resubmit the application not as a sign but as artwork. HDC members chose not to evaluate the structure until the applicant decides whether to pursue this option.

Both boards unanimously approved without conditions the plans submitted for the building wall sign.

The freestanding pole sign in front exceeds zoning dimensions. Should the applicant decide not to resubmit the application as artwork, permission was unanimously approved by HDC to demolish the sign.



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A motion was made and unimously and approved by both boards to end the joint session of the meeting.

## Application for changes to the façade.

Mr. Viola next presented the submitted plans for the façade of the building.

After discussion the Commission unanimously approved the plans with the following conditions:

- The left door and right doors will be six panel-insulated doors and match each other.
- The sidelights for the right door will be divided to show 4-6 lights on each side.
- All replaced siding will be red cedar. Color will match existing.
- All windows will be simulated divided lights.
- 4. Public Hearing Case 17-25, Applicant Saulo Stewart, 106 Old Garrison Road (Town Assessor's Map J04-0014). For a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace rotten trim.
  - Mr. Stewart requested approval to replace the rotten trim at 106 Old Garrison with PVC.
  - Mr. Riepe reminded the members the HDC approved the construction of this home.
  - Mr. Andreas asked if the applicant is requesting to change the design of the home.
  - Mr. Stewart replied that he is keeping the same design only changes what is rotten due to poor craftsmanship. There will be some minor changes on the molding in the back of the house, but this would not be visible from the main road.
  - Ms. Hawes said she personally was not against using PVC on this property, considering the design is not historic and it is further away from public view.
  - Mr. Riepe agreed with Ms. Hawes because it is a new house and it is located far from the road.

Motion made, seconded and votes to approve Petition 17-25 with the following conditions:

- Trim will be repainted to match existing trim.
- All replaced trim will match size and design of existing trim.
- Color and profile is to be maintained the same as existing.



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5. Public Hearing – Case 17-27, Applicants Griff & Jess Noble, 47 Concord Road (Town Assessor's Map K09-0002). For a Certificate of Appropriateness to paint house and shutters and to replace gutters and downspouts with Copper.

Griff Noble requested permission to paint his house with the same existing colors.

Mr. Andreas reminded the applicant that he does not need approval from the Commission to paint the house with the same existing color, but he does need approval to replace the gutters.

Mr. Noble shared that in front of the house they now have wood gutters and would like to replace the downspouts with copper downspouts. Sudbury Seamless will do the work. They are putting gutters all around the house, but they will keep some existing wood gutters. In a couple of years, he added they would like to come back with a request to change the lower portion of the asphalt roof with copper.

Motion made, seconded and voted to approved Petition 17-27 without conditions.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

- Approval of HDC Meeting Dates for 2018
  - The board unanimously approved the proposed meeting dates for 2018. They will be posted on the Town's website.
- Minutes from November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting were unanimously approved by members who were present.
- The Commission acknowledged that the Board of Selectmen at their December 19 meeting voted to appoint Mr. Taylor to the Commission for another term to expire on January 1, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 PM.