



# Town of Sudbury

## Historic Districts Commission

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### MINUTES

**JUNE 3, 2021 AT 7:30 PM**

### VIRTUAL MEETING

**Members Present:** Chair Fred Taylor, Vice Chair Susanna Finn, William Andreas, Anuraj Shah, and Taryn Trexler

**Others Present:** Director of Planning and Community Development Adam Duchesneau and Planning and Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

#### **Old Business:**

**1. CONTINUED Public Hearing – Case 21-14, 47, 72, & 131 Wayside Inn Road (Assessor's Maps L03-0001 and L03-0002), Applicant Daniel Nason, Public Works Director, and Owner Town of Sudbury, seek a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish, design, and reconstruct the current bridge over Hop Brook on Wayside Inn Road.**

Mr. Taylor made a motion to continue the public hearing for the 47, 72, & 131 Wayside Inn Road Certificate of Appropriateness application to the Historic Districts Commission meeting on July 1, 2021. Mr. Shah seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Taylor – Aye, Ms. Finn – Aye, Mr. Andreas – Aye, Mr. Shah – Aye, and Ms. Trexler – Aye.

#### **New Business:**

**1. Public Hearing – Case 21-16, 75 Hudson Road (Assessor's Map G08-0008), Applicant Scott Nix, Police Chief, and Owner Town of Sudbury, seek a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a security gate on the east side of the building.**

At this time, Ms. Finn recused herself from the discussion of this application.

Police Chief Scott Nix was in attendance to discuss the application with the Historic Districts Commission. He noted there had been an increased need for added security for the police station, the police cars, and the weapons. Chief Nix indicated the fencing would match what was currently in place at the property.

Mr. Taylor asked if it would be possible to consider a different material for the fence.

There was then discussion regarding potential different fencing options.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to continue the public hearing for the 75 Hudson Road Certificate of Appropriateness application to the Historic Districts Commission meeting on July 1, 2021. Mr. Andreas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Taylor – Aye, Ms. Finn – Absent, Mr. Andreas – Aye, Mr. Shah – Aye, and Ms. Trexler – Aye.

At this time, Ms. Finn rejoined the meeting

**2. Public Hearing – Case 21-17, 288 Old Sudbury Road (Assessor’s Maps H09-0062), Applicant Rachael Robinson c/o Sudbury Historical Society and Owner Town of Sudbury, seek a Certificate of Appropriateness to install window signage.**

At this time, Mr. Andreas recused himself from the discussion of this application.

Rachael Robinson was in attendance to discuss the application with the Historic Districts Commission. It was noted the window signage was already installed and received positive comments from the Design Review Board.

Ms. Finn commented she did not think the window signage was appropriate.

Mr. Shah stated he did not like the window signage nor the items displayed in the window, but indicated he might be amenable to allowing the signage to remain for the duration of the pandemic.

There was discussion about other options of what to display in the window and the signage in general.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the window signage at 288 Old Sudbury Road, but to only allow it to remain in the window until December 3, 2021, when it shall be removed. Ms. Trexler seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Taylor – Aye, Ms. Finn – No, Mr. Andreas – Absent, Mr. Shah – Aye, and Ms. Trexler – Aye.

At this time, Mr. Andreas rejoined the meeting.

**Other Business:**

**Discussion regarding Historic House Signs and Recommendations from Sudbury Historical Commission**

Ms. Trexler presented the information to the Historic Districts Commission on this matter.

There was discussion regarding where historic house signs should be placed on buildings.

Mr. Shah mentioned it would be good to have a standardized location for the historic house signs.

Mr. Andreas noted it was about ensuring the signs were in the most visible location to be viewed by the public and recommended a location near the front entrance.

Mr. Taylor felt historic house signs, if over one square foot in size as specified in Chapter 40 of the Special Acts of 1963, should come before the Historic Districts Commission for approval.

Mr. Andreas suggested the following wording: The marker should be installed on the outside of your home, five feet above the ground, facing the street to the left or right of the door. If architectural features or landscaping make that impractical, markers may be mounted at higher levels, including the second floor. Care should be taken to minimize confusion with your house number.

Diana Warren of 32 Old Framingham Road, Unit 30 was present to offer her comments on the process.

### **Continued Discussion regarding Amending Section 12. Changes in Historic District of Chapter 40 of the Special Acts of 1963**

Mr. Andreas indicated he had not yet been able to write the proposed amendment. As such, Mr. Taylor stated this topic would be discussed at the next the Historic Districts Commission meeting on July 1, 2021.

### **Continued Discussion regarding Defining “Visible from a Public Way”**

Mr. Taylor indicated that while new language had been added to the Historic Districts Commission page on the Town website regarding defining “visible from a public way,” he wanted to add a bit more wording from Town Counsel’s opinion on the matter. The other members agreed this made sense. Mr. Taylor stated he would work with Town staff to edit what was on the Town website to include the verbiage from Town Counsel.

### **Approval of Minutes from May 6, 2021**

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes from May 6, 2021 as amended. Mr. Shah seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Taylor – Aye, Ms. Finn – Aye, Mr. Andreas – Aye, Mr. Shah – Aye, and Ms. Trexler – Aye.

### **Administrative Report/Update**

Discussion regarding status update on being able to hold meetings virtually versus in person.

At 9:21 PM, Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Finn seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Taylor – Aye, Ms. Finn – Aye, Mr. Andreas – Aye, Mr. Shah – Aye, and Ms. Trexler – Aye.