

**Town of Fitzwilliam  
Historic District Commission  
Minutes  
July 13, 2023**

**Members Present:** John Fitzwilliam, Chairman; Bill Davis; Ken Beckwith; Ron Heroux; and Brian Doerpholz, Selectmen's Representative.

**Members Absent:** Isaac Morse.

**Staff Present:** Lori Nolan, Land Use Coordinator.

**Others Present:** Tim Parsons; and Mike Batinski.

**Call to Order:** The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

**Appointments**

Sandy Parsons – to permit a 30x20 inch sign attached to the farm stand at 49 Richmond Road. [Map 32, Lot 17 – Residential District]

Mr. Fitzwilliam welcomed Mr. Parsons to the meeting. Mr. Parsons showed the Commission the sign that they would like to display in front of their house to advertise the farm stand. Mr. Fitzwilliam noted that it is not a permanent sign. Mr. Davis felt it looked nice.

**Mr. Davis motioned to approve the 30x20 inch sign as presented at 49 Richmond Road [Map 32, Lot 17], subject to no conditions. Mr. Heroux seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Yes: 3 [Fitzwilliam; Davis; Heroux]; No: 0; Abstained: 0

Michael Batinski – to permit a new rear screened porch at 47 Templeton Turnpike. [Map 11, Lot 43 - Residential District]

Mr. Fitzwilliam welcomed Mr. Batinski to the meeting. Mr. Batinski explained that they have an existing raised porch and a failing retaining wall. They would like to replace the raised porch with a screened porch. The Commission reviewed the design and felt the design fit within the guidelines.

Mr. Batinski stated that they will re-shingle the roof as well. It will be an in-kind replacement with black asphalt shingles.

At this time, Mr. Beckwith joined the meeting.

**Mr. Davis motioned to approve the screen porch as presented at 47 Templeton Turnpike [Map 11, Lot 43], subject to no conditions. Mr. Heroux seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Yes: 4 [Fitzwilliam; Davis; Beckwith; Heroux]; No: 0; Abstained: 0

Mr. Batinski asked about the regulations for satellite dishes. The Commission requested the LUC to send the Historic District guidelines to Mr. Batinski.

Economic Development Committee – to permit a sign at 18 NH Route 119 West. [Map 34, Lot 5 – Residential District]

Mr. Doerpholz explained that there will be an expendable trust fund setup for a sign in 2023. The purpose of the sign is to advertise events. The Committee has since spoken with the property owner, NHDOT, and Fitzwilliam DPW. The idea is for a long-term lease. The conceptual example currently is from New Ipswich. It would look like wood, but they would like to use alternative materials, which should not decay over time like the Town sign does. NHDOT recommends 5 inch letters. They are considering four lines to be able to advertise for two events.

Mr. Beckwith asked if the sign would have any sight line issues. Mr. Doerpholz stated no and they are working with NHDOT to ensure they would not be any. Mr. Beckwith felt it was an effective location.

Mr. Davis asked who would be responsible for the maintenance. Mr. Doerpholz stated the Economic Development Committee.

Mr. Heroux liked the design and felt it would fit the community nicely. He asked if it would need to be removed for the winter due to plowing. Mr. Doerpholz explained it would be a permanent installation. He anticipated a Spring of 2024 install.

**Mr. Beckwith motioned to approve the sign proposed by the Economic Development Committee as presented. Mr. Heroux seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Yes: 4 [Fitzwilliam; Davis; Beckwith; Heroux]; No: 0; Abstained: 0

### **Old Business**

#### **148 NH Route 119 West**

The LUC explained that she spoke with the property owner. All repairs are being done in-kind. All the trim and details will be put back up once the repairs are completed. The owner will come before the Commission once they are ready to paint the exterior. Mr. Davis had major concerns with all the soffits being removed and enclosed. He felt the repairs deviate from the original design, which requires Historic District Commission approval. Mr. Doerpholz explained that the BoS cannot inspect without a construction permit in place. Permits are not required for in-kind repairs. However, Mr. Doerpholz did not think that the soffit enclosures would be removed and that would consist of a change requiring HDC approval.

At this time, Mr. Davis had to leave the meeting due to a prior commitment.

#### **Guidelines:**

The guideline review was deferred to the next meeting.

### **Minutes Review**

With one minor spelling change, **Mr. Fitzwilliam motioned to approve the minutes of May 11, 2023 as amended. Mr. Heroux seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Yes: 3 [Fitzwilliam; Beckwith; Heroux]; No: 0; Abstained: 0

With one minor spelling change, **Mr. Fitzwilliam motioned to approve the minutes of June 8, 2023 as amended. Mr. Heroux seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Yes: 3 [Fitzwilliam; Beckwith; Heroux]; No: 0; Abstained: 0

With no other business to discuss, **Mr. Heroux motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Beckwith seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Yes: 3 [Fitzwilliam; Beckwith; Heroux]; No: 0; Abstained: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Nolan

Land Use Coordinator

**Minutes approved as written on November 9, 2023.**