

GRANBY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: December 8, 2015

Location: Carnegie Building, 1 Library Lane, Lower Level

Members Present: Gayle Demary, Chair
Kathleen Morris, Vice Chair
Robert Camus, Secretary
Lisa Petraglia
Steven Nally - Alternate

Absent: Lori Meister

Also in attendance: Lillian Camus
Michael Beck
Terry Lajoie – Granby Historic Commission
Walter Hamilton - Sentinel

Gayle Demary called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Steve Nally noted the Board still needs to appoint an alternate to complete the board. After some discussion, Gayle Demary will research this and get back to the Commission.

Approval of November 3, 2015 minutes

The Commission discussed amendments to the November 3 minutes. After discussion, Motion was made by Kathleen Morris and seconded by Robert Camus to approve the November 3, 2015 minutes as amended. The November 3, 2015 minutes were approved 3-0-2.

Historic District Commission – Aldrich Hall

Gayle Demary explained she asked Terry Lajoie and Mike Beck to attend the meeting to give the Commission some background on discussions and decisions made regarding Aldrich Hall.

Terry Lajoie, a member of the Granby Historical Commission, explained what the Historical Commission does and how it differs from the Granby Historic District Commission. She also reviewed the background of the Historic District Commission and its origins.

Lisa Petraglia asked about the process to make adjustments to the Historic District Commission bylaws. Terry Lajoie responded any adjustments to the bylaws would have to go through a town vote. Steve Nally clarified that once bylaw changes are approved by a town vote they are then approved to the Attorney General.

Gayle Demary reviewed background material regarding the Commission's previous discussions and actions. She also reviewed a brief timeline on Aldrich Hall based on notes and meeting minutes of past Historic District Commission. This brought the new members up to date on Aldrich Hall discussions.

Michael Beck, as a former member of the Granby Historic District Commission, reviewed the previous Historic District Commission's actions with regard to communication with the Selectboard about Aldrich Hall.

Steve Nally reminded the Commission that it is not the jurisdiction of the Commission to find alternative uses for Aldrich Hall.

Gayle Demary had responded via e-mail to the Commission regarding a request from the Selectboard for someone from the Commission to attend their December 7 meeting to discuss Aldrich Hall. Kathleen Morris volunteered to attend the Selectboard meeting as the other members were not able to attend. Kathleen reported that at their meeting the Selectboard were confused as to why she was there as they had not received notification sent that she would be attending to discuss Aldrich Hall. As a result, a question and answer session was held with the Selectboard regarding Aldrich Hall.

Steve Nally also urged the Commission continue to meet with the Board of Selectmen regarding Aldrich Hall.

Kathleen Morris, after extensive research regarding the Commission's duties, specifically with regard to the Massachusetts Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C, Article 11, reviewed the Commission's next steps as she understood them.

Review of Historic District Bylaws

The Commission was asked by the Town Bylaw Review Committee to review its bylaws. Steve Nally, who is on the Committee to review the bylaws, asked if the Commission has anything they would want to change in the current bylaws. Gayle Demary asked what recourse would the Commission have if The Bylaw Committee added something to the bylaws that the Commission would not want. Steve Nally responded that would have to be debated at the Town Meeting to resolve.

The Commission will review the bylaws and get back to the Town Bylaw Review Committee.

Lisa Petraglia left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Any other business to come before the Committee

Gayle Demers asked for clarification as to how to submit a budget for the Commission if they determined the need. Steve Nally suggested a simple request to the Board of Selectmen to handle any minor needs such as mailing letters. He also suggested to ask the Selectboard to establish a fee schedule so the cost of a public hearing would be borne by the applicant.

Next Meeting Date

Gayle Demary will contact the Selectboard to determine a mutually agreeable date to meet before the Commission's January meeting to discuss Aldrich Hall.

The next meeting date is to be determined.

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn by Robert Camus and seconded by Gayle Demary. Approved unanimously and adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Camus
Recording Secretary