RYE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Monday, May 20, 2019 4:30 p.m. – Rye Town Hall

Present: Mae Bradshaw, David Choate, Daryl Kent, James Tegeder, Selectmen's Rep Phil Winslow. Katharine Brown came into the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Others Present: Building Inspector Peter Rowell

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and led the pledge of Allegiance.

II. Business: Town Hall Fence

Chair Bradshaw explained that Building Inspector Peter Rowell will be presenting an application for a certificate of approval for fencing at the Town Hall.

Mr. Rowell explained that the fencing has been in place for years and is located behind the building. It attaches to the building and runs across to the retaining wall. The fence was taken down during some of the work being done to the building and needs to be replaced so that people do not access that area.

The proposed fence is 15ft, and 42 inches high. It is a typical a white picket wooden fence with white spaced boards and a 4ft gate.

Member Kent showed a picture of the fence at his home done by the same contractor. After a short discussion the Commission decided that instead of the pointed tops on the fence, they would like to see 5-inch cedar posts with a top cap and black hardware. They also would like to upgrade the latch to a barrel bolt.

Motion by David Choate to approve the application as amended. Seconded by Phi Winslow. All in Favor.

Chair Bradshaw talked to Building Inspector Rowell about the application fee for the district. She pointed out that on the new list of town wide fees, there is no fee listed for an application for the Historic District. She stated that such applications sometimes require public notices and abutter notices for public hearings which have a cost.

Mr. Rowell stated that there is an application fee of \$100 plus \$5 for each abutter in the Historic District.

Chair Bradshaw pointed out that it was not added to the new list.

Mr. Rowell commented that it was an oversight, and where it is an already established fee, he would have Janice Ireland add it to the list.

Member Choate reported that he took the Exeter description for the commercial HDC standards and guidelines, and adapted it to Rye.

Chair Bradshaw explained that currently there are no published guidelines for the Rye Historic District and the Commission is working to establish one.

Member Choate noted the section assignments:

- James Tegeder Window and Doors
- Charles Hoyt New Construction and Additions
- Karen Stewart Masonry Mae Bradshaw Introduction

Needed still is:

- Roofing and Trim
- Landscaping

The goal is to have a draft prepared by the July meeting.

Member Kent stated that he has a personal project that he would like to talk to the Commission about. He would like to change the color of his front door. It is currently a dark burgundy and he would like to change it to a dark blue.

Chair Bradshaw stated that painting or repainting, with regard to color, is exempt from getting a certificate. If the color is already being used, or if the color is similar to what is being used in the district, there is no problem.

Member Kent stated that the color he wants to use is on his back door and that he will take a picture of both doors and send them to the Commission.

Member Choate reported on a guideline that he found in the Exeter document that may help with the Demolition Review Committee. It reads:

The Demolition Committee is a subcommittee of the Exeter Heritage Committee charged with the review of the proposed demolition of any building or structure within the town limits of more than fifty years old, with the exception of manufactured homes, a building or structure that is listed or is eligible for the National Registry, any building or structure within a locally established Historic District.

Selectman Winslow explained that the purpose of the Plan NH Charrette is to get ideas of what to do with the center of the village, including the Parsonage, the museum, library and the TD Bank building (even though the Town does not own it).

Chair Bradshaw stated that the Plan NH group will not give recommendations as to how the Town should use the individual buildings. They are looking at how the community feels about the center and what can be done to bring together the community as to the common goals for the center. For instance, they may look at all the municipal buildings in the center and say that it is a campus and should have a pedestrian footbridge across the road. They look for ways to accomplish some of the goals of the community.

Selectmen Winslow stated that the Board of Selectmen are particularly interested in the Parsonage building. He explained that there are eight units in the building with six current tenants. The Town has given them notice that the building is being closed. The Town is trying to help the tenants find other housing.

Chair Bradshaw added that part of the questions includes the library expansion. Should the addition be on the back of the building or should the addition somehow incorporate some or all of the Parsonage building? This may be part of the discussion.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2019

Motion by David Choate to accept the Minutes of February 19, 2019 as written. Seconded by James Tegeder. Vote: 4-0-2 Abstained: Darvl Kent and Phil Winslow.

• Next Meeting: July 18, 2019 - 5:00 PM

IV. Adjournment

Motion by Phil Winslow to adjourn at 5:50 p.m. Seconded by James Tegeder. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F. Ledger