

Local Historic District Study Committee Meeting
11/9/2010
Poll Room, Bangs Community Center

PRESENT: Jerry Guidera (chair), James Wald, Phillip Shaver, Linda Faye, Bill Gillen; Nate Malloy (staff); no members of the public present
ABSENT: Wendy Kohler, Tini Sawicki

Announcements and minutes:

No announcements or public comments.

Handouts: Minutes of Oct. 25 meeting, updated draft Rules and Regulations as prepared by Phil Shaver, ZBA Rules & Regulations (Section 2, public hearings), Agenda.

Minutes of 10/25/2010 were duly adopted.

Old Business:

Continuing review of draft Rules and Regulations with the changes below were duly adopted:

3.4, Site Visits, Additional Info:

We adopted the ZBA Rules & Regs, par 2.2, Site Visits, however, with one change: Second paragraph beginning with, "The purpose of the site visit is to view the site and its relation to the surrounding area" shall be the first paragraph of 3.4, and the 2nd paragraph, "the Zoning Board of Appeals views all properties" in this case will read, "the local Historic District Commission shall view all properties."

Therefore, 3.4 shall read:

"Members of the Commission may view the premises and obtain additional information concerning any application before arriving at a decision. The local Historic District Commission shall view all properties that come before it under applications for special permits, variances, appeals and comprehensive permits unless a decision is made in advance by the Commission Chair that no site visit is needed. Applications will be notified of the site visit and should be prepared to meet with the Board at the site."

3.5, Issuance of Certificates of Appropriateness:

Second sentence, If a public hearing is required under Section 7.4 of the bylaw, all the costs of notifying abutters...." Change "abutters" to "owners of adjoining properties and the entire District"

3.6, Duration of Certificates of Appropriates: Approved as written. It was suggested that the applicant be reminded that they have one year to get the job done when the application form is requested.

3.7, Guidelines for Decisions, add to the list:

First paragraph, add: "Massachusetts Historic Regulations and Amherst 2010 Master Plan."

Paragraph 4, Enforcement and Penalties: Approved as written.

Paragraph 5, Amendment: The need for a vice chairman was noted; however, it was then realized that it is included as Article 5.4 of the Amherst Local Historic Bylaw.

Linda Faye suggested that a friendly guideline book would be helpful for use by the Building Commissioner and would be an appreciated resource.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. V. Gillen". The signature is stylized with a cursive-like flow.

William V. Gillen, Clerk
RJ;237 mtg 11-9

cc: Committee
Nate Malloy