

Local Historic District Study Committee Meeting
3/8/2011
Glass Room, Bangs Community Center

PRESENT: Jerry Guidera (Chair), Phillip Shaver, Tini Sawicki, Lynda Faye, Bill Gillen;
Nathaniel Malloy (Planning Dept.)
Member of the public: Tom Ehrgood
ABSENT: James Wald, Wendy Kohler

1. Announcements and minutes:

- A. Handouts: Minutes of Feb. 8 meeting, the Agenda of meeting 3/8/11, Discussion Draft Rules and Regulations of 1/11/2011, Amherst Local Historic District Bylaw (undated), email of 2/25/11 from Phil Shaver regarding March 8 agenda suggestions, staff comments on proposed LHD bylaw and Rules & Regs of 3/8/11.
- B. Minutes of 3/3/11 were approved.

2. Old Business:

- A. Staff comments of 3/8/11:
 - 1. Staff stressed the need for design guidelines.
 - 2. Additional money is needed to pay the extra burden on staff, especially if there is more than one historic district.
 - 3. Does the building commissioner make the initial judgment as to whether or not an application needs to be referred to the historic district commission or should it go directly to the historic district commission first? Considerable discussion resulted.
 - 4. Nate Malloy noted that Northampton provides a 73 page design guideline booklet as well as adding two months to the permitting process.
 - 5. It is hoped by this study committee that those building permit applications which, in the judgment of the building commissioner, are for work not visible from public way would not be referred to the local district commission.
- B. Tom Ehrgood, speaking for the public, said the bylaw needs design guidelines so an applicant can anticipate what is required and what is approvable.
- C. If we prepare guidelines and accept a delay in the permit procurement, it further reduces the chances of Town Meeting approval of the Historic District.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Phil Shaver and Lynda Faye agreed to visit Northampton to learn how the Elm Street Historic District operates, with a view toward developing design guidelines for Amherst
- B. Next meeting: March 29, 2011, 5:30 p.m, at town hall small conference room.
- C. Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



William V. Gillen, Clerk
RJ;237 mtg 3-8

cc: LHDSC Committee, Nate Malloy