

DURHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Thursday, June 8, 2023-- 6:00

Durham Town Office

Minutes

I. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum : *Candy Decsipkes, Emily Alexander, Paula Purdy, Lois Kilby-Chesley*

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Amendments to Agenda : *Brochure design by Mark Kuehn. Confirm vote of the Mission Statement of the DHDC*

IV. Acceptance of Minutes - May 2023 : *Moved and seconded. Unanimous*

V. Informational Exchange

Materials provided to the Select Board at a meeting on May 23. Review of previously sent materials

Two terms are used in Town documents to describe our Commission. 1. Durham Historic District Commission, 2. Durham Preservation Commission. This is confusing and language should be consistent throughout documents. We believe a change to the label "Durham Preservation Commission" would require a vote by residents at Town Meeting. That term (we believe) then expands our authority beyond the designated Historic District at Southwest Bend.

VI. Continuing Business

1. *Definitions for #65 Exterior Architectural Feature, #93 Historic or Archaeological Resources and #99 Improvement. Review of document.*

#65 was accepted as written

*#93 was edited to read "Areas identified by a governmental agency, such as the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, as having significant value **to the history of the community**, and any areas identified in the municipality's comprehensive plan.*

#99 the word "or" was edited to "of". We believe this was a typographical error. Moved and seconded with edits. Unanimous.

2. *Finalize letters to HD residents and choose map(s) to include to clarify the HD. An additional map was provided by Paula and is the map we adopted for inclusion with the letter. The letter will be edited, re-sent, and approved by the Town Manager.*
3. *Ordinance changes to Article 12 and 5.14 - continuing discussion as time allows. A copy of the most recent edited versions of Article 12 and 5.14 will be provided to members. In lieu of the July meeting, **all members will review the present edited document and will come to the August 10 meeting ready to discuss.***

4. Nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary to begin immediately (June 2023). *Lois Kilby-Chesley was re-elected chair, Candy Decsipkes and Paula Purdy will share the Vice-Chair role, Emily Alexander will serve as Secretary.*
5. Final review of letter to Historic District residents and the attachments. Vote to send.(This was a repeat of #2 above).

VII. New Business

Discussion and vote on the issue of 1500 feet and forward that decision to Town Officials. *We discussed the following options - 1. Maintaining the language of 1500 feet, 2. Having the language reflect the abutting properties only, 3. Having the language reflect the abutting properties and the properties directly across the street/road, 4. Having the language reflect only the historic property without any abutting or adjacent/nearby properties. We did not reach consensus on this issue.*

Discussion and vote on having Mark Kuehn redesign the brochure that was developed for informational purposes. He has offered to redo it at no charge. Moved and seconded. Unanimous

VIII. Other Business

1. Next regular meeting: Thursday, **August 10, 2023** - 6 pm at Town Office

IX. To Do : *Lois will prepare and send/deliver the most recent edits to Article 12 and Article 5.14 so members will be fully prepared for the August 10 meeting. Lois will edit and send the Definitions as we have discussed and adopted.*

Calendar dates for 2023/24.

June 8	July 13 (canceled - lack of quorum)
August 10	September 14
October 12	November 9
December 14	January 11, 2024
February 8	March 14
(Town Meeting April 6)	April 11
May 9	June 13