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## **HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

### **Minutes**

City of Rochester

**Wednesday May 8, 2019 at 7 pm**

*City Hall Annex (second floor conference room)*

33 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

(These minutes were adopted June 12, 2019)

#### Members Present

Molly Meulenbroek, *Chair*  
Joyce Bruckner, (*Planning Board Rep*)  
Peter Bruckner  
Nancy Dibble  
Sandra Keans  
Martha Wingate, *V Chair*  
Marilyn Jones

#### Members Absent

I. **Call to Order.** Ms. Meulenbroek called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

II. **Approval of minutes for April 10, 2019.**

*The minutes from April 10, 2019 were approved by Mr. Bruckner and seconded by Ms. Dibble.*

III. **Barn Preservation Easements 79-D**

**a. Barn Preservation 79-D 290 Chestnut Hill Road, Torr Map 206 Lot 1**

The HDC members discussed the 79-D application for 290 Chestnut Hill Road. Ms. Mears explained that RSA 79-D, which allows municipalities to grant property tax relief to barn owners who a) can demonstrate the public benefit of preserving their barns or other farm buildings and b) agree to maintain their structures throughout the term of a minimum 10-year preservation easement. Applications are submitted to the town by the property owner and reviewed by the local board of selectmen (or similar body). If they determine that the proposed preservation of the structure is consistent with the purpose of the law, they may acquire an easement on the structure for a minimum of 10 years and grant tax relief within a range of 25-75% of the assessed value of the structure.

The Historic District Commission approved the application for 79 D and referred it to City Council.

*The 79-D application for 290 Chestnut Hill Road was approved by and seconded by Ms. Jones and Mr. Bruckner.*

**IV. Other Business/Non-scheduled Items**

**a. Administrative Approval Little Free Library**

Ms. Mears discussed the administrative approvals of the Little Free Library

- b. The Planning and Development Department is working on the Transportation Master Plan Chapter. Thank you to all those who attended at Frisbie Memorial Hospital. Ms. Wingate commented how Summer Street doesn't feel as if it is part of the Downtown Master Plan Chapter.
- c. Consultants have been selected for the Downtown Master Plan Chapter Resilience Planning and Design. Ms. Mears commented that they have experience on Master Plans throughout the State including: Franklin, Dover, Portsmouth, and Lancaster. If you are interested in serving on the Downtown Master Plan Steering Committee please contact the Mayor.
- d. Ms. Jones asked if Planning and Development Department could purchase NH Division of Historical Resources online GIS layer for the members.

**V. Adjournment**

*A motion was made by Mr. Bruckner to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm and seconded by Ms. Dibble. The motion carried unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Mears, *Senior Planner AICP*