



HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes

City of Rochester

Wednesday July 21, 2021

City Hall Annex (second floor conference room)

33 Wakefield Street, Rochester, NH

(These minutes were approved on August 18, 2021)

Members Present

Molly Meulenbroek, *Chair*

Marilyn Jones

Peter Bruckner

Matthew Winders

Members Absent

Martha Wingate, absent

Alec Taliaferro, excused

Staff: Shanna B. Saunders, *Director of Planning & Development*

Crystal Galloway, *Planning Administrative Assistant II/Interim Planner I*

I. Call to Order. Ms. Meulenbroek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from June 16, 2021 were reviewed and edits made.

A motion was made by Mr. Winders and seconded by Mr. Bruckner to approve the June 16, 2021 minutes as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Administrative Approval

None.

IV. Metro by T-Mobile, 42 South Main Street (by Sundance Sign Co.),

Larry from Sundance Sign Company explained the proposal for a new sign. He explained it will be channel letters on a raceway similar to the Allstate sign with the

materials being aluminum with acrylic. The colors will be the classic T-Mobile colors of purple and pink. Mr. Bruckner asked if the sign will be backlit. The response was no.

A motion was made by Ms. Jones and seconded by Mr. Winders to approve the sign application as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Murals

A. City Hall / Opera House

B. Fire Station

C. Police Station

D. Rochester Library

Ms. Saunders explained the grant funded project. She said the Arts & Culture Commission selected the locations for eight public pieces of art which are all different sizes. Ms. Saunders explained the murals will be printed on vinyl with an adhesive backing which will be heated and will take the shape of the brick that it is being adhered too.

Ms. Saunders told the Commission members there will be eleven pieces of student art along the side of the Fire Station. She also said there will be a sculpture installation at Central Square around the Parson Main statue. This will all make up the Art Walk.

A motion was made by Mr. Bruckner and seconded by Ms. Jones to approve the project as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Historic QR Code Project – Matt Winders

Mr. Winders asked the Commission members for feedback after last month's presentation. There was discussion of where the promotional posters will be located.

Ms. Meulenbroek asked about the timeline for the grant. Ms. Saunders explained it is not known at this time because she is waiting for the Federal Government in order to start phase II. The Commission members discussed Mr. Winders timeline and changes to the posters.

VII. Certified Local Government Grants – Historic Resources Survey Update

No update.

VIII. Zoning – Building Height in the Downtown

Ms. Meulenbroek informed the Commission members the Planning Board approved the Commission's recommendation for building heights of 55 feet with a 15 foot setback then up to 75 feet. She said she plans to attend the City Council meeting for the public hearing along with Mr. Bruckner to give a presentation and asked all Commission members to also attend to show support.

IX. Demolition Ordinance

The Commission members discussed how the Hoffman building might be treated in a demolition. Ms. Saunders said she is hesitant to change an ordinance for one project. Mr. Bruckner said the Commission can require the façade be maintained. Ms. Saunders encouraged the Commission to write a letter to Economic Development stating their concerns.

X. Other Business

A. 73 North Main Street, LLC, 73-77 North Main Street Certificate of Approval Extension. Case# 121 – 369 – DTC – 19

Ms. Saunders said the current approval will expire on September 11, 2021. She said the applicant is seeking a one year extension because he is waiting for tax credits.

A motion was made by Mr. Winders and seconded by Ms. Jones to approve the extension request with the condition the applicant gives the Planning Department an update in six months. The motion carried unanimously.

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Winders to adjourn at 8:19pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Galloway,
Planning Administrative Assistant II / Interim Planner I