

# NASHUA HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Monday, July 25, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

**NOTE: City Hall is now open to the public after the Governors Order has expired. Therefore, the Historic District Commission is meeting in Room 208 at City Hall. The public as well as applicants may still access the meeting via Zoom.**

## *HDC Members:*

Robert Vorbach, Acting Chair  
Robert Sampson  
Chris Barrett  
Maggie Harper  
Bill Slivinski  
Bill Quinn

## *Also present:*

Carter Falk, Deputy Planning Manager/Zoning  
Kate Poirier, Zoning Coordinator

Mr. Falk called the Roll Call; the attending members indicated their presence by verbal confirmation.

## **MINUTES:**

June 13, 2022

**MOTION** by Mr. Barrett to approve the minutes as presented, waive the reading, and place the minutes in the file.

**SECONDED** by Mr. Vorbach.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6-0 BY VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE MEMBERS.**

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Parent Realty, LLC (Owner) Grey Nuns Thrift Shop (Applicant) 11-15 Main Street (Sheet 68 Lot 9) requesting approval to reface existing wall sign. D-1/MU Zone, Ward 3. [CONTINUED FROM 6-13-2022 MEETING]**

Voting on this case:

Robert Vorbach  
Robert Sampson  
Chris Barrett  
Maggie Harper  
Bill Slivinski  
Bill Quinn

Michele Canto, Grey Nuns, 11-15 Main Street, Nashua, NH. Ms. Canto said that she works for St. Joseph's Hospital, which owns the Grey Nuns Thrift Shop, and they recently have a presence on Main Street. She said it's been a really good move for them, and they partner with a lot of other agencies. She said that the owner recently painted the outside of the building gray, and there was a sign there that was exactly the same size with old-fashioned lights that hang over it, and their logo is blue and white, and want the same size sign, it would say Grey Nuns.

Mr. Barrett asked if the lighting would be the same as in the picture, four white lights.

Ms. Canto said that they were previously approved lights for the flooring company that was there.

Mr. Vorbach said that the gray is a much better color, and the sign fits, in terms of colors and logo, and with the gray background, it's a much better fit.

Mr. Slivinski asked if the sign is going to be vinyl, and placed on a board.

Ms. Canto said yes, the board is mounted. She said that when the previous tenant removed his sign, he took the backdrop, but Barlo Signs will re-do it exactly the way that it was in the picture, it goes nice with the building, and once it was down it was too late to track down the previous tenant, but it will be exactly the way it is shown in the picture.

Mr. Slivinski asked if the Grey Nuns is a non-profit organization.

Ms. Canto said that it is, they make enough money to pay their rent and utilities, and they are mostly staffed by volunteers, the first shop was on Lake Street, then Marshal Street, and now on Main Street, it's for clients that are in need, and work with the American Red Cross and with other customers on a voucher basis.

**SPEAKING IN FAVOR:**

No one.

**SPEAKING IN OPPOSITION OR WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

No one.

**END OF PUBLIC HEARING, BEGINNING OF PUBLIC MEETING:**

Commission members all expressed support for the application.

**MOTION** by Mr. Vorbach to approve the request as submitted.

SECONDED by Mr. Sampson.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6-0 PER VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE VOTING COMMISSIONERS.**

- 2. Gregg & Marnie Gordon (Owners) 69 Concord Street (Sheet 47 Lot 23) requesting approval to install a 10'x12' shed in right side yard. RA Zone, Ward 3.**

Voting on this case:

Robert Vorbach  
Robert Sampson  
Chris Barrett  
Maggie Harper  
Bill Slivinski  
Bill Quinn

Gregg & Marnie Gordon, 69 Concord Street, Nashua, NH. Mrs. Gordon said that they met back in January for a hot tub that was already installed, and now, it's time to add a shed to the back yard. She said it would be 10'x12', and they took down the aluminum fencing on the left side of the colored picture to install a new fence from Gate City Fence, as shown in the photo, and the fencing will be put back once everything is done and cleaned up, and the fencing will meet the side of the shed, and the doors will open to the side of the driveway to access lawnmowers, snowblowers, and lawn equipment.

Mr. Vorbach said that it looks like it meets the side yard setback. He said that it's a Reeds Ferry Shed, they have good quality, and the shed would be some distance back from Concord Street, and doesn't see any issues, architectural or otherwise.

**SPEAKING IN FAVOR:**

Mr. Falk said that there was an email in support from Dawn Bateman at 32 Berkeley Street, and read it into the record as being in support.

Mr. Quinn asked if the shed would have any electricity.

Mrs. Gordon said no.

**SPEAKING WITH OPPOSITION OR WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

No one.

**END OF PUBLIC HEARING, BEGINNING OF PUBLIC HEARING:**

**MOTION** by Mr. Sampson to approve the application as submitted and presented.

SECONDED by Mr. Quinn.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6-0 PER VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE COMMISSIONERS.**

## Discussion:

Mr. Slivinski said that he visited the Historical Society, and mentioned that they're trying to do something together, and a lot of the individual members came up to him after the meeting and expressed interest and desire, but didn't get much feedback from the officials, they didn't seem enthused.

Mr. Sampson said that they met with Dean Shaloup, the President of the Society, about a year ago, and he's interested, but the question is what would they like us to do, and what things can be done. He mentioned historic plaques on buildings such as who built the house and the year, conceivably that would be something we would be interested in. He said that unfortunately, that costs money.

Mr. Slivinski said that the initiative would have to come from the Historic Commission, and the question is if anyone here has time to do it, but it would be nice to do some sort of project with them.

Mr. Falk said that a lot of properties in the District have the oval plaques that show the date built, they were done by Marshall Signs, and most of them have been there since the 1980's.

Mr. Sampson said that another project was to expand the District to include Berkeley Street, which didn't get supported.

Mr. Falk said that it was also Swart Terrace and Greeley Park.

Mr. Slivinski said that he has a factory out in rural Pennsylvania and it has lights, signs, walkways, plaques, it seems like maybe they're getting Federal money.

Mr. Sampson said that a little while ago, the Commission had a presentation of the walkways around the river, and wondered if the Society would be interested in that.

Mr. Falk said that he doesn't think that staff has heard from those folks since their presentation.

Mr. Sampson said that we should suggest some thoughts to the Society and talk to them about it.

Mr. Slivinski said that he mentioned that if there is a good Historic District, it's a great benefit to the Historical Society, perhaps they can pay half, and we can work out a deal with Marshall Signs, to get some plaques on houses.

Mr. Sampson said that he's thinking on some of the old Mill buildings, the Jackson Hydro, the Jackson Mill Buildings, maybe if BAE still has it and it could be dug out and put back up someplace. He said that there is a bronze plaque that it was advertised as the first airconditioned plant in the textile industries.

Mr. Slivinski said that we should all think about it and come up with some ideas.

Mr. Vorbach said that he's keeping an eye out on that carport, it's steel. He said that he is concerned that projects change their materials and they end up being something not what was approved.

Mr. Quinn asked if there is a way to tie us and Building together.

Mr. Falk said that if staff is aware of something, we inform the inspectors, and they'll get out there, such as the work they were doing to the red house on Concord Street we just reviewed. He said that there are teeth to do that, but it all depends on the scope of what is being done, they have minor things to review and other issues are much more involved and complicated, depending on what permit may be submitted. He said that cases where public safety is involved, they take precedence over other cases. He said it depends on the severity and scope of permits, and the level of safety, that will determine what actions are needed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

None.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Mr. Slivinski at 7:13 p.m.

CF/cf