

NASHUA HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Monday, October 24, 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:

Ald. Patricia Klee
Mariellen MacKay (on Zoom)
Robert Vorbach
Chris Barrett
Maggie Harper
Bill Slivinski
Ald. Derek Thibault

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:

September 26, 2022

MOTION by Ald. Klee to approve the minutes as presented, waive the reading, and place the minutes in the file.

SECONDED by Mr. Vorbach.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE MEMBERS.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. The Marquette 2022 Trust, Patricia A. & Wayne J. Marquette, Trustees (Owners), 54-A Concord Street (Sheet 66 Lot 32) requesting approval to replace rotted wooden front porch floor with composite decking material, including steps, footings, and frame to be supported or replaced. RB Zone, Ward 3.**

Voting on this case:

Ald. Patricia Klee
Robert Vorbach
Bill Slivinski
Maggie Harper
Chris Barrett
Mariellen MacKay (recused)

Patricia Marquette, 54-A Concord Street, Nashua, NH. Mrs. Marquette said that it is shown from the application and pictures that the porch is rotted, and there are pieces of plywood covering the holes on the floor. She said that some of the boards are on stone, and some are on footings. She said that they won't know exactly what they're dealing with until the whole floor is removed, but the intent is to keep it the same size and shape, just reinforcing or replacing rotted frame next to it.

Mrs. Marquette said that the composite that they've picked out is actually what is shown in the package, the color will not change, it will stay the same as it is currently, the only change is that it would switch over to composite material, and the rationale behind it is that construction costs are so high on wood, that the difference is not that significant, as the composite is longer lasting than the fir.

Mrs. Marquette said that the pillars will remain the same, they will be painted white as they currently are, they will be removed to be repaired. She said that the steps are not to Code, so there will be the same number of steps, but will be built to Code.

Mrs. Marquette said that they will most likely be adding something to block critters from going underneath the floor, as skunks like to go under it. She said that there will be something on the bottom so they can't go in there.

Mr. Barrett asked what the color of the decking will be.

Mr. Barrett asked to confirm what will be done with the pillars.

Mrs. Marquette said that they will just paint the existing ones and clean them up. She said that they have to remove them to replace the decking, but they will be put back exactly as is. She said that they are in great shape, so they'll just be cleaned up and painted.

Mr. Slivinski asked how they arrived at the decision to use the composite material, rather than just replacing it with wood.

Mrs. Marquette said that the cost of fir is very high, so construction costs would actually be about the same, and the deck would not last as long using wood, so they decided on the composite and not painting it every few years.

Mr. Vorbach said that some composites look composite, like plastic, and said that it looks like they've selected a better product in context. He asked if they are wide like the current boards.

Mrs. Marquette said that they are a little wider than the current boards. She said that it is Fiberon, a very high quality composite.

Ald. Klee asked if the grain is similar to what is shown in the picture.

Mrs. Marquette said it is, it looks just like a wood grain.

Ms. Harper asked if there is going to be skirting around the deck.

Mrs. Marquette said that they thought of putting up some lattice or something, just to protect critters from going through.

Mr. Marquette said that there are stones around it now, but they believe that they'd put the lattice behind the stones. He said that they'd probably be white, or something to match the deck or the siding, but just need to protect animals from getting underneath the porch. She said it may even be something that is not even seen.

Mr. Vorbach said that the porch has a fascia, or grade look, and it could be something behind that, there could be some landscaping edging or something else to seal up the gap.

SPEAKING IN FAVOR:

Mariellen MacKay, 9 Webster Street, Nashua, NH. Mrs. MacKay said that she is the direct abutter to the rear, and fully supports the request. She said that it is much easier to maintain and is much safer too, as there are no splinters.

SPEAKING WITH OPPOSITION OR WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:

No one.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING, BEGINNING OF PUBLIC HEARING:

MOTION by Ald. Klee to approve the application as submitted and presented.

SECONDED by Mr. Barrett.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY PER VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Meeting Dates for 2023:

Mr. Falk said that the Commissioners have to look at this at two meetings, so they will be submitted at the next meeting in November.

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Ald. Klee 6:45 p.m.

CF/cf