

Approved May 8, 2007
GILFORD HISTORIC DISTRICT AND HERITAGE COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM A
MINUTES
April 10, 2007

Members Attending: Elaine Gagnon, Chairman; Dick Waitt, Troy Schrupp, Julie McConnell, Alice Boucher, Donna Mooney.

Members absent: Mary Curtis.

Guests: Ernest and Edith Gault; Karen Feltham and Howard Warren, 49 School House Hill Rd., abutters and Carmel Lancia, representing the Thompson-Ames Historical Society.

1. **Roll Call and confirmation of quorum.** The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
2. **Minutes of February 13, 2007.** Motion to accept minutes made by Richard Waitt, seconded by Troy Schrupp. Minutes approved. Julie McConnell abstained.
3. **New Business**

1. **Ernest & Edith Gault- 43 Schoolhouse Hill Rd. Tax Map & Lot #226-028.000.** Applicant proposes to remove old trees from the property and replace an existing French door. Applicant is proposing to remove one weeping willow tree from the front of the house, and one from the rear of the house. There would remain two existing trees in the front of the house. Applicant is also requesting to replace a wood basement french door at the rear of the house with one of similar appearance. Mr. Gault intends to hire an arborist to evaluate the existing maple trees, and potential treatment to keep them healthy. The Gault's would prefer to remove the trees as soon as possible.

Discussion:

Alice Boucher referenced the article in the Gilford Zoning Ordinance regulations that stipulate that when trees are removed, they should be replaced with a tree of 8-10 feet in height. The question was raised as to the location of any replacement trees; does a replacement tree need to be in the exact location, or can it be placed in an alternative location?

Motion to approve removal of the tree in the front yard without requiring a replacement tree, and approval to remove the tree in the rear of the house with consideration to be given for replacement of the tree in the back of the house made by Alice Boucher, seconded by Richard Waitt, Motion carried. Julie McConnell abstained.

Elaine Gagnon asked Mr. Gault about the removal of a shed on the same property without the prior approval of the Gilford Historic District and Heritage Commission. Mr. Gault indicated that he did not even think that it required approval of the GHD&HC at the time.

The discussion then moved to the request to replace the french door at the rear of the house. Mr. Gault indicated the he intends to use an insulated type material that would provide greater energy efficiency. Elaine Gagnon indicated that we would prefer a more complete application, because no specifications for the type of door and materials to be used was provided. Elaine Gagnon also requested that completed photos be provided by the applicant for the work upon completion.

Motion to approve replacement of the existing french door with a like-kind door made by Alice Boucher, seconded by Donna Mooney. Motion approved. Julie McConnell abstained.

Discussion: Elaine Gagnon asked Mr. Gault about the color of the house that has remained in question before the Commission. Mr. Gault indicated that he is intending to make major renovations to the property in the future, indicating a preference to wait on re-painting of the house for at least a year. Alice Boucher expressed concern about the sheen and shading of the existing red color that has a more purple tone. Mrs. Gault indicated that they thought it would have been a more colonial red when they selected the paint. They chose a gloss finish to better protect the house from moisture and mold. Mr. Gault acknowledged that he should have come before the Commission. Karen Feltham and Howard Warren, as abutters, expressed concerns about the color of the Gault's house, and expressed deep concern that the Gault's did not adhere to the requirements of the Gilford Historic District and Heritage Commission as they were required to do when renovating their property, and that the existing color of the house is unacceptable. Mr. Warren expressed further frustration that if residents are allowed to be excused from the GHD&HC guidelines as they stand, they will lose their teeth and the historic nature of the village will suffer.

Motion made by Alice Boucher to allow the Gault's to leave the existing color on the house until this time next year, with the stipulation that they will come back before the Commission a year from now with proposed plans.

Motion withdrawn. Revised motion made by Alice Boucher to request that the Gault's come back at the next meeting with a new application including paint samples for approval so that they can move forward to re-paint the house. Motion seconded by Richard Waitt. Motion carried. Julie McConnell abstained.

Thompson – Ames Historical Society – Carmel Lancia attended, representing the Thompson-Ames Historical Society. Carmel also indicated that Dianne Mitton of the Historical Society would also be available.

Other Business

Old Business

John Ayer indicated that the ZBA upheld the Kiedaisch's appeal of the GHD&HC decision to deny the installation of a metal roof on the barn.

6. CONTINUED WORK SESSION TO REVIEW AND CLARIFY GILFORD HISTORIC DISTRICT AND HERITAGE COMMISSION GUIDELINES

Questions about language to be used in guidelines – “should” vs. “shall” language. Review of pages 1-3 of draft guidelines.

Julie McConnell will submit the current draft of the revised guidelines to the NH Division of Historical Resources for feedback on the proposed guidelines, requesting particular advice on historic use of metal roofing materials.

Motion to adjourn made by Dick Waitt, seconded by Donna Mooney, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie McConnell
Secretary