

Gilford Historic District & Heritage Commission
Gilford Town Hall -
7:00 P.M.
Minutes for May 13, 2008

Attendance

Members present: Chair, Troy Schrupp; Selectmen's Representative, Gus Benavides; Secretary, Julie McConnell; Richard Waitt; Carmel Lancia, and Mary Curtis.

Members Absent:

Staff: John Ayer, Planning Director

Others Present:

1. Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.

A quorum was established. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

2. Minutes of April 8, 2008. Motion to accept minutes as amended made by Richard Waitt, seconded by Carmel Lancia. Minutes accepted.

3. New Business -

1. Designation of Benjamin Rowe House to the National Register of Historic Places

Discussion: There was discussion about the significance of the recent notification from the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources that the Rowe House was entered in the National Register of Historic Places on April 30, 2008 (Letter dated 5/9/08). The committee discussed options for scheduling an open house event to celebrate. Carmel Lancia made a suggestion to re-activate a Rowe House Committee to coordinate activities between the GHD&HC and the Thompson Ames Historical Society. Carmel indicated that the Thompson Ames Historical Society recently renewed the lease on the Rowe House with the town for a five-year period. The house needs gutters, and there is water seepage into the basement that will need repair.

Julie McConnell shared a press release that she had drafted for the committee's consideration. A motion was made to release the press release, with the amendment to take out references to individual names, made by Gus Benavides, seconded by Carmel Lancia. Motion approved.

2. Recognition of Elaine Gagnon and Donna Mooney for their service to the Gilford Historic District and Heritage Commission. A motion was made to send a memo to the Board of Selectmen requesting formal appreciation be sent from the Town in recognition of their volunteer service. Motion made by Richard Waitt, seconded by Gus Benavides. Motion approved.

4. Old Business

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

John presented a working copy of the Design Guidelines and Regulations for the Hollis Historic District for consideration of the Committee. Mr. Benavides asked what enforcement options the GHD&HC has in the event someone chooses not to follow the guidelines. John clarified that the guidelines are in fact guidelines, and are not part of the zoning ordinance. Discussion of planning board rules and regulations that are fully enforceable. John Ayer will raise the enforcement question with Town Counsel. Members will review the Hollis guidelines, and compare to the most recent draft of the GHD&HC guidelines in preparation for the next meeting. A work session meeting is scheduled for June 4th at 7:00 P.M. Members are invited to visit the Rowe House at 6:30 on June 4th prior to the work session.

2. Gilford Community Church Project – Don Roper, Project Manager for the Church project, contacted Troy Schrupp about the plan for removal of trees in front of the church in advance of the project being started. The prior approval for the project dated 12/11/07 indicated that removal of trees would need to follow the tree regulation as stated in ordinance 35.1-35.2. A motion was made to direct staff to send a letter to Mr. Roper citing the appropriate ordinance. Motion made by Richard Waitt, seconded by Gus Benavides. Motion approved.

5. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Gus Benavides, seconded by Richard Waitt. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie McConnell, Secretary