

NASHUA HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Monday, 21 May 2007, 6:30 p.m. - Room 208, City Hall

Members:

Roberta Woitkowski, Chair
Michael Findley
Bill Hooley
Frank Mellen
Bob Sampson
Bill Slivinski
Randy Wilbert
Greg Williams, Alderman (left at 7 p.m.)

Also present:

Carter Falk, Planning Department
Marcia Wilkins, Planning Department
John Gustis, Mayoral candidate

43 Main Street and 8 Franklin Street – Sheet 78, Lots 37 and 39, Property Account # 39113 and 7314 – D-1/MU Zone – Grace Fellowship of Nashua, Inc. (owner) – Requesting approval to install a 15’10” x 5’4” aluminum deck to match an existing handicap access ramp, a black wrought iron safety barrier, a new 6’8” x 3’6” door into 8 Franklin Street, outdoor lighting; and the removal of the existing storage shed

Charles Frieberger, Advent Home & Access, Hudson NH

Minutes

With a motion by Mr. Sampson and 2nd by Mr. Mellen, the 23 April 2007 minutes were approved unanimously.

8-12 Franklin Street – Grace Fellowship

The church wants to install a 15’10” x 5’4” aluminum deck ramp to provide handicap access into 8 Franklin Street. It will match and be adjacent to an existing handicap ramp and access deck located at the rear entrance of the church (43 Main Street). A drawing of the ramp area was submitted. Mr. Frieberger said the new solid aluminum ramp has a non-skid surface and be located in the alleyway between the two buildings. The top of the ramp would be about 14” high. If the ramp was located to the other side of the building near the railroad tracks, the ramp would be much steeper and also harder for a handicap person to access. A black wrought iron safety barrier fence would be added at the end of the ramp so no one could fall off of the ramp. Placed between 43 Main and 8 Franklin Street, the fence would be 5’4” wide x about 6’ high with 4” spacing on center.

A new doorway would be cut into the brick exterior wall near the end of the ramp to provide access into 8 Franklin Street. The 6’8” x 3’6” black anodized steel door would have a long narrow light panel and open into a hallway next to the office and give access to Bonhoeffer’s Café. New outdoor lighting would match the front elevation of the café. The existing dilapidated plywood storage shed in the alleyway would be removed. The dumpster in front of the shed would be removed and relocated. There were no drawings or catalog information for the light, door or fence. The door is coming from Merrimack Industrial Supply. Construction would start in about 4½ weeks.

Because this ramp connects two buildings, the members were concerned about what would happen in the future if different owners owned the church at 43 Main Street and the building at 8

Franklin Street. The members also want more information about the door, light and fence and for the ramp to have a black painted fascia plate.

With Mr. Sampson making the motion and Mr. Wilbert seconding, the plan was unanimously approved, contingent on that information sheets are to be presented at the June HDC meeting for the door, light and fence. The motion would no longer be valid if no details are submitted at the June HDC meeting.

23-27 Main Street – Deluxe Expressions

A narrow banner has been installed at the top of the windows. The members want the banners removed. Mr. Falk will talk to the owner.

Brochure

Jean Lyons drafted a brochure for the members to view. It is a compilation of the letter to the HDC owners, the ordinance and two old HD brochures.

Mr. Slivinski would like to see even more advantages of being in the HDC and some before and after pictures. The members will review the brochure and bring any suggestions to the next meeting.

Extension of HD

Alderman Richardson sent an email today to the members saying he is willing to have a Ward 3 meeting to get feedback to augment the Historic District. He is concerned that the recent changes adopted by the Board of Aldermen relative to CROP 105 may be deleterious to historic preservation.

Mr. Slivinski and Mr. Sampson said they are willing to go door-to-door to distribute information, especially on Berkeley Street. It was suggested the meeting could be at the Hunt Building, but felt it would be better if it were held in the fall.

Neon signs

Ms. Woitkowski said there seems to be a lot of neon signs in the HD. It was suggested the members walk part of the district at the next meeting if possible.

The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.