

Town of North Smithfield  
**Historic District Commission**

Minutes of August 19, 2013

A meeting of the North Smithfield Historic District Commission was held on  
Monday, August 19, 2013  
in the Greenwood Room at 6:30 PM  
at the North Smithfield Public Library, 20 Main Street, Slatersville, RI

**Call to order:** 6:38 (Jeff Fontaine chaired meeting until Jeff Harris' arrival at 6:49)

**Members Present:** Daniel Couture, Christian de Rezendes, Gwen Cunningham,  
Jeffrey Fontaine, Jeffrey Harris, Elizabeth Martin

**Members Absent:** Linda Frye (resigned- see Communications below)

**Materials Distributed:** Agenda, Minutes, CA for 28 Woonsocket Hill Road

**Approval of Minutes from July 15, 2013**

Approval for the minutes from the July 15, 2013 was unanimously approved.

**Applications**

- A. Certificate of Appropriateness: 28 Woonsocket Hill Road, Plat 9 Lot 49, Union Village Historic District.  
Owner: Brian Martin

Contractor, Eugene Cotnoir, was present representing owner. Insurance company requires roof replacement. Work consists of removing existing 3 layers of shingles and installing in kind architectural/Driftwood color 30 year shingles.

It was determined that the Repairs/Replacement specified above are essentially an "in-kind" replacement (asphalt for asphalt architectural shingles) and are appropriate and congruous. Approval for the application as submitted, for a Certificate of Appropriateness was granted.

Motion to approve: Dan Couture  
Seconded: Gwen Cunningham  
All in favor.  
Opposed: None

- B. A written Resolution and a Certificate of Appropriateness will be forwarded to the applicant and submitted for record to the Office of the Building Inspector.

**Communications**

- A. Letter of Resignation: Linda Frye  
Jeff H. read aloud letter of resignation submitted by Linda Frye.

- B. Historic District properties for sale; Real Estate Disclosure letters:  
Jeff H. to email letters to realtors representing properties listed below.  
Letters remind realtors of disclosure requirement  
regarding historic district property.
1. 86 Great Road, Union Village
  2. 101 Great Road, Union Village
- C. Review informational letter on gas meter relocation in a Historic District.
1. Based on information provided by Gwen C. on gas meter relocation , Jeff H, drafted an informational letter
  2. Gwen C. suggests boiling the letter down with sole purpose of notifying property owners of their rights with respect to gas meter location.
  3. All in agreement.
- D. Public Hearing (First Reading) before the N.S. Town Council for the Forestdale Schoolhouse Historic District is scheduled for Monday, October 7, 2013.
- E. Preservation Brief (7): The Preservation of Historic Glazed Architectural Terra-Cotta, by de Teel Patterson Tiller, for the U.S. Department of the Interior/ National Park Service. (re: Proposed structural improvements per new owner and GZA for the Slatersville Mill Powerhouse and Chimney).
1. Jeff H. distributed copies of Preservation Brief 7 to Commission members in anticipation of new owner of Slaterville Mills appearance before Commission.
  2. The exterior of Slaterville Mill Powerhouse and Chimney is made of terracotta blocks which are deteriorating- big pieces broken allowing water to get in.
  3. New owner is exploring various options and will appear in near future before Commission to present proposals with regard to the Powerhouse and Chimney.

### **Old Business**

A. Status Update:

Proposed informational letter to all property owners within the Union Village & Slatersville Historic Districts:

Jeff H. told administrator to send informational letter by mail.

### **New Business**

A. Preview of draft of "Five Year Action Plan."

Jeff H. circulates rough draft to member.

B. Preview of revised 'N.S. Historic Districts property Details'

Jeff H. to email Gwen C. additional details.

### **Subcommittee Report:**

A. Subcommittee: Union Village Historic District Research Committee

1. Finalize Documentation.

Dan C. and Elizabeth M. to continue review of historic district property folders located in Building Inspector's Office at Annex.

B. Subcommittee Report: Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage  
Continuing discussions.

C. Subcommittee Report : North Smithfield Historic District Commission  
Standards and Guidelines (NSHDC S&G Committee):

1. Gwen C. and Elizabeth M. propose drafting a North Smithfield Historic District Homeowner's booklet to guide the homeowners within the historic districts.
2. The booklet would briefly explain the roles of the NSHDC and the property owner in the preservation of structures within the historic districts.
3. The general standards of review upon which the NSHDC bases its findings would be enumerated.
4. References to resources to help homeowner would be included.
5. Jeff H. expressed a desire for a more comprehensive approach detailing rehabilitation methods in addition to the booklet.
6. Discussions on proposal will continue.

**Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was called to a close at 7:55

Motion Dan Couture

Seconded Christian de Rezendes

All in favor

Opposed: None

Next Meeting: Monday, September 16, 2013