

**Hollis Historic District Commission
Minutes of the August 2, 2018 Meeting**

Call to Order

T. Cook called the meeting of the Hollis Historic District to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following were present: Tom Cook, Chairman; Jessica Waters, Vice Chairman; Peter Jones Regular Member.

Members absent: Michael Bates and Frank Cadwell, Selectmen's Representative

HDC2018-016

The application of Hollis Brookline Middle School, to replace an existing sign, located at 23 Main Street, Map 050, Lot 05-004.

Bob Thompson, Principal, Hollis Brookline Middle School explained the school is seeking approval to replace the existing sign located at 23 Main Street. The school has attempted to repair the existing sign to no avail. The school has reached out to Classic Signs, which has designed signs within the Historic District previously. Classic Signs recommendation was to replace the sign. The proposed sign will be 28" x 38" PVC, white and blue letters with the street number in gray. (see file for depiction) T. Cook asked if the lettering would be raised or flat graphics. B. Thompson replied flat. P. Jones asked when was the existing sign installed. B. Thompson replied around 1990. P. Jones asked why was the street address being added since, it was not present on the original sign. B. Thompson replied since the school is not visible from the street the address would help people locate the school. T. Cook asked since the sign is located on town property would the school have to obtain Board of Selectmen approval as well. Setaro replied yes, she believes so.

The HDC had no issues with the proposed sign and was in favor of the new design. The HDC also thanked B. Thompson for submitting an application for approval.

T. Cook moved to approve the application as submitted with the following conditions:

1. Board of Selectmen approval shall be required prior to the installation of the proposed sign.

P. Jones seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

HDC2018-017

The application of Sharon Howe of the Anna Keyes Powers Chapter DAR to install an 8.75 square foot Historic Marker, located within the State right-of-way along Proctor Hill Road.

Sharon Howe, member of the Anna Keyes Powers Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) presented the application on be-half of the DAR. The DAR is preparing a request to the State of New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR) to erect a permanent State historical marker at the site of the Peter Powers homestead on Rte. 130 near the four corners intersection with Rte. 122. The state Department of Transportation installs and maintains the markers on the State highway right-of-way. If the DAR is approved by the NHDHR the historical marker would be installed at no cost to the DAR.

The Peters Powers monument was conceived and erected by the Anna Keyes Powers Chapter of the DAR to mark the location of the homestead site of Peter and Anna Keyes Powers, the first permanent settlers to establish their home in West Dunstable, later chartered in 1746 as Hollis, NH. The stone monuments original location when erected was in an orchard behind the house and barn at 8 Silver Lake Road (Rte. 122). The marker was moved two additional times with the final location being the Town common where

a bronze plaque was added to the stone explaining why the marker no longer marked the location of the Power's homestead.

The DAR is requesting approval and support from the Historic District (HDC) so the DAR can preserve the historical facts and mark the site of the original homestead for future generations. The DAR is aware of the ordinance which limits the sign size to 2 square feet. However, since the sign size is mandated by the State the size can't be modified. The DAR was also told since the sign was to be installed within the State right-of-way. The State did not have to comply with the ordinance. P. Jones asked if the application was being submitted as a courtesy. T. Cook replied section XIV.L.4 limits the size of historic markers to 2 square feet and believes the HDC has the authority to deny the application. P. Jones stated in his opinions the meaning of the HDC is to preserve the historical aspects of Hollis for future generations and feels the sign does just that. J. Waters agreed. T. Cook asked if there were any opinions from the Board of Selectmen received. S. Howe replied no. T. Cook asked if the HDC deny the application would the State install the sign regardless. S. Howes replied she was not sure but the support from the HDC would help with their application to the State.

S. Howe asked what steps where needed to obtain approval. D. Setaro replied an appeal to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) for either a variance from the size limitation or an appeal based on the HDC decision.

The HDC discussed the proposal and recognized the historical significance of the proposed historic marker. However, the board felt the HDC did not have the authority to grant the application (historic marker) because it violates Section XIV.L.4. The proposed sign totals 8.75 square feet. The size limitation imposed by Section XIV.L.4 is 2 square feet.

T. Cook moved to deny the application.

J. Waters seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

S. Howe stated she understood why the HDC made the decision and appreciated their time.

Approval of Minutes

P. Jones move to approve the HDC minutes of June 7, 2018 as written.

T. Cook seconded.

Motion unanimously approved.

Adjournment

T. Cook moved and P. Jones seconded to adjourn.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Lee Setaro, Building and Land Use Coordinator