

HDC

Approved  
11/5/22  
Kerri Prof



RECEIVED

Historic Districts Commission A 9:31  
Town Hall  
365 Boston Road Billerica, MA 01821  
978-671-0962  
978-670-9448 Fax

TOWN CLERK  
BILLERICA

John McKenna, *Chair*

Travis Brown, *Vice Chair*  
David Gagliardi  
George Simolaris

Mary McBride, *Secretary*  
Mike Rea  
Richard Hawes

**Historic Districts Commissions**  
**Minutes**  
**October 5, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.**  
Via Zoom

Members	Present
John McKenna	Excused
Travis Brown	X
Mary McBride	X
David Gagliardi	X
Mike Rea	X
George Simolaris	X
Richard Hawes	X
Kathy Meagher-Alternate	X
Matthew Ahearn-Alternate	Excused
Mary Jones-Alternate	X
Dan Valentine-Alternate	X
Tina Pesiridis-Alternate	X

(Travis Brown had to step away for a few minutes)

**7:03 PM the meeting is called to order by Mary McBride**

**Public Comment-**

No public comments

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**428 BOSTON ROAD-Minor-Application#2022-18**

New Sign at Ailish & Aston

Attendees:

Wiley Knight-Sign Design

**Mary McBride** made a motion to open the public hearing  
Second Dave Gagliardi

The applicant gave a presentation of the sign that the owner at 428 Boston Road would like to use.  
It is a twisted arm blade sign.

**Questions from the Board**

**Dan Valentine**-Asked what the sign was made out of

**Wiley Knight**-It is a 1-inch-thick sign with vinyl graphics

**George Simolaris**-Is this the first sign that is protruding out from the building?

**Wiley Knight**-No, the neighbor, "Dogg Boston" has the same one

The board felt that the sign is within the Historic Standards, and all approve of the sign.

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**Travis Brown**-I make a motion to approve the minor application 428 BOSTON ROAD-Minor-  
Application#2022-18

Seconded by David Gagliardi

Mike Rea-I

Dan Valentine-I

Richard Hawes-I

Mary McBride-I

George Simolaris-I

Travis Brown-I

David Gagliardi-I

7-0-0 Closed

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**33 Talbot Ave-Minor-Pergola-Application#2022-19**

New Pergola in front of the Talbot

**33 TALBOT AVE-Minor-New Roof-Application #2022-20**

New Roof at 33 Talbot Ave

Attendees:

Bob Correnti-BHA

Bob Correnti gave a presentation of the Pergola that he would like to fix at 33 Talbot Ave.

Back in July 2018 he came before the HDC, and it was approved. The Shawsheen Tech declined to construct the roof. Bids submitted from contractors exceeded our budget (bids were \$8K +). The project was placed on hold due to the costs to construct the large octagon shaped roof. The Carpenters union has expressed interest. A private contractor has expressed interest in doing it at a substantially reduced rate and there is the potential for a volunteer.

**Questions/comments from the board:**

**George Simolaris**-What will the roof be made of?

**Bob Correnti**-Architectural Shingles

**Dan Valentine**-Asked if what he is proposing now is what he proposed before in 2018

**Bob Correnti**-Yes

The board is happy to see this happening

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**Travis Brown**-I make a motion to approve the application 33 Talbot Ave-Minor-Pergola-Application# 2022-19

Seconded by David Gagliardi

Mike Rea-I

Mary Jones-I

Richard Hawes-I

Mary McBride-I

George Simolaris-I

Travis Brown-I

David Gagliardi-I

7-0-0 Approved

**MOTION TO APPROVE**

**Travis Brown**-I make a motion to approve the application 33 Talbot Ave-Minor-Roof-Application#2022-20

Moved by Mary McBride

Seconded by David Gagliardi

Mike Rea-I

Tina Pesiridis -I

Richard Hawes-I

Mary McBride-I

George Simolaris-I

Travis Brown-I

David Gagliardi-I

7-0-0 Approved

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**29 ANDOVER ROAD-Fence- Application #2022-10**

Submission of Landscaping Plan

Attendees: Tina Pesiridis

Tina Pesiridis went over the landscaping plan for in front of the fence. She went to Saltbox. They will be adding Blue Skyrocket Juniper, Hydrangeas, mixed grasses, roses, Flowering Dogwood tree and plant tulips bulbs. We will do some mature bushes so they will be a decent size when going in. This should be done by the spring.

**Questions/comments from the board:**

**Mary Jones**-We have no control over landscaping. Once this is approved, the fence is there forever—we acquiesce any input we have forever. I also said, I have no bad will for this couple—I personally think they should have gone back to their realtor for remediation of this fence.

The board was happy with the plan, feels it would be good and it is what the board asked for.

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**1 ANDOVER ROAD-Sign-Application#2022-16**

Discussion of current signage at Business “Health Foot Works”

Attendees: Lili (Lili’s translator)

**Kerri Rufo**-This was brought to my attention that the business owners sign does not meet the HDC sign standard. I had one of the building inspectors go to the business and explain that she will need to reach out to the HDC.

The board explained to the business owner that she is going to have to come back to us on November 2<sup>nd</sup> with a design plan that meet the current standards. The board will have to approve. The current two banners (Front and back) will need to come down immediately.

**Lili’s translator**-Said that Lili will reach out to a sign company and will come back to the board on November 2<sup>nd</sup>

**David Gagliardi**-I suggest she goes up to Town Hall and speak to the building inspector so that way she will know the size and what type to get.

**Richard Hawes**-Explained that it is the banners and the red & White sign in front of the business are not standard.

**Questions/comments from the board:**

**George Simolaris**-I don’t think they should have to take the sign down if the neighbors up the street don’t have to take their fence down.

**Richard Hawes**-We need to look at the specifications for the Historic District. Photographic images, we really need to look at that. When those were written it probably wasn’t a practical thing to do.

**Tina Pesiridis**-How long has she been there?

**Lili’s translator**-3 years

**Dan Valentine**-If you could point them to the proper guidance on what would constitute a conforming sign as they go to a sign designer to make sure they have all the rules they need.

**Mike Rea**-I think we should set a timeline

**David Gagliardi**-Does anyone know how long of a process it takes to get a design of a sign made?

**Travis Brown**-I would think withing a month? I think by the next meeting they should have a design

**Mike Rea**-She needs to understand that she needs to come before with the design before she buys it.

**Travis Brown**-We would like Lili to come back to us on November 2<sup>nd</sup> so we can approve it and then you could put the order in.

**Dan Valentine**-On the side that faces on Andover Road-Are we going to determine if the banner needs to be taken down now?

**Travis Brown**-I think the banner should come down now and the red 7 white sign stays until they get the new sign.

**George Simolaris**-Doesn't understand why they have to take the sign down now?

**Travis Brown**-The sign can stay until they get a new one, right now we are asking them to take the banner down.

**Kerri Rufo**-To clarify; They have to take down the banner as soon as possible, come to Town Hall and speak to an inspector to get the spec. They have to come back to us on November 2<sup>nd</sup> with a design proposal.

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## **INFORMAL DISCUSSION**

### **HDC Mailing Flyer-**

New HDC flyer to be reviewed and edited by the HDC

### **Questions/comments from the board:**

**George Simolaris**-When will this be sent out? It should be sent out to every realtor too.

**Kerri Rufo**-Once you guys approve it.

**Travis Brown**-The Sabbath house it is on the National Register so it has a higher protection level. It should be known to buyer.

**David Gagliardi**-Will it be sent to every house on the list of Historic homes?

**Kerri Rufo**-It will be sent to the 3 districts

They board was very happy with the flyer

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**24 Salem Road**-Requested Kathy Meagher

**Travis Brown**- There is an offer on this house. Kathy is concerned about the interior and part of what she was wondering is what we can do to protect it. To my knowledge the only thing that you can do is a historic restriction but within the HD it is not under our restriction. Working with however buys that house to see if they have any questions. If there were going to do renovations if we could get in there to document.

Our demo day is very week, it is 6 months demo delay. If someone comes in and knocks down a house without asking it is only a \$300 fine and then they have to wait 2 years before they can build. We should explore a tougher demo delay by-law inside and outside the HDC and inventory list.

**Richard Hawes**-I wonder if we could get Alec Ingram involved in this? According to the By-laws we don't think we have any say about what goes on in the inside of the house. It would be nice if we could work with the owner.

**Mike Rea**-I would imagine that someone buying that house would value it.

**Dave Gagliardi**-Do we know if the buyer is a builder or an individual?

**Travis Brown**-To my knowledge it is not a builder.

**Mary Jones**-I think Jen Doherty at Mass Historical would be helpful, she would be very willing to help in any way that she can.

**Mary McBride**-The owner of the house tried to get support from the CPC and it didn't go well and one of the members was insulted and humiliated them. I don't know how receptive the Town would be about buying the house?

**Travis Brown**-based on what I know, I think it might be too late. We need to take a second look at our demolition delay laws.

**George Simolaris**-I know that house and George Washington stayed at that house when he visited.

**Travis Brown**-Kathy wanted to get the conversation going. And now with getting the brochure out it will be good for the residents.

**Mary McBride**-Are their other communities that have a more serious demolition delay By-Law and if so how long is their timeframe?

**Travis Brown**-I do think that they are longer than 6 months and they do have hasher penalties. I think a daily fine, versus a one time fine. Erika used to be involved in the HDC in one of her Towns right? Would it be possible for her to do research for demo delays By-laws in other towns?

**Kerri Rufo**-Read a text from Kathy about her concerns: Initiating a discussion with the new owner when the time is right; Exploring the possibility of getting in and at least documenting the existing conditions; Resurrected the idea of BATV getting in with the new owners OK to do the filming that has been planned; Working closely with the building department to stay abreast of any permits that might be applied for; Beefing up the DD By-Law at Spring-town meeting etc. Possibly alerting the new owners of the possibility of reaching out again to the CPC for financial assistance if they too would be willing to explore HPR which could protect the interior and exchange for some financial support for the restoration work.

**Kerri Rufo**-Informed the board that she was re-typing the Review Standards. This will give the board an opportunity to do a refresh. Asked if she could put it on the agenda next month.

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**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES 1:07**

**Dave Gagliardi**-I make a motion to approve the minutes from May 4, 2022

Seconded by Richard Hawes

Mike Rea-I

Dan Valentine -I

Richard Hawes-I

Mary McBride-I

George Simolaris-I

Travis Brown-I

David Gagliardi-I

7-0-0 Approved

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES 1:07**

**Dave Gagliardi**-I make a motion to approve the minutes from August 3, 2022

Seconded by Mary McBride

Mike Rea-I

Tina Pesiridis -I

Richard Hawes-I

Mary McBride-I

George Simolaris-I

Travis Brown-I

David Gagliardi-I

7-0-0 Approved

**Kerri Rufo** informed the board that the next meeting is November 3, 2022

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**Adjournment**

**David Gagliardi** made a motion to adjourn

2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary McBride

All in favor