

# NASHUA HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Monday, March 28, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

**NOTE: City Hall is now open to the public after the Governors Order has expired. Therefore, the Historic District Commission is meeting in Room 208 at City Hall. The public as well as applicants may still access the meeting via Zoom.**

*HDC Members:*

Robert Sampson, Acting Chair  
Bill Slivinski  
Chris Barrett  
Ald. Patricia Klee  
Bill Quinn  
Ald. Derek Thibeault

*Also present:*

Carter Falk, Deputy Planning Manager/Zoning  
Kate Poirier, Zoning Coordinator

Mr. Falk called the Roll Call, the attending members indicated their presence by verbal confirmation.

**MINUTES:**

January 24, 2022

**MOTION** by Mr. Slivinski to approve the minutes as presented, waive the reading, and place the minutes in the file.

**SECONDED** by Mr. Barrett.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE MEMBERS.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Robert A. McIntosh Jr. LLC d/b/a Davis Funeral Home (Owner) Robert A. McIntosh (Applicant) 1 Lock Street (Sheet 43 Lot 29) requesting the following: 1) to install a 12' long, 8' high, 8' wide awning over building entrance walkway on Lock Street side, 2) add gas lanterns to front and side entrances, and 3) to install sign**

**from National register of Historic Places, by Department of Interior. RA Zone, Ward 3.**

Voting on this case:

Robert Sampson  
Chris Barrett  
Bill Slivinski  
Ald. Klee  
Bill Quinn

Robert McIntosh, Owner, Davis Funeral Home, 1 Lock Street, Nashua, NH. Mr. McIntosh said that the business has been open for 180 years, and the building has been there since 1840. He said that he'd like to gain approval for the bronze plaque that other historical places have, he said that they had one made in 1982 by Marshall Signs, and would like another one made as the current one is somewhat dated, and that is one of the requests.

Mr. McIntosh said that similar to the Copper Door Restaurant, they have these gas lanterns, and is only requesting one lantern, as you're entering the front porch on the right hand side. He said that the building is very old, and in those times, awnings were very common, and they'd like to have an awning over the ramp entrance for the handicap, and for those folks that want to go outside and socialize and don't want to be in the funeral home.

Mr. McIntosh said that although it's not on the application, they'd like to put awnings on the upper story windows at a later date. He pointed out a picture that was submitted of the funeral home to show the layout of the windows, the ramp entrance, as well as a couple photos of the lantern styles that they'd like.

Mr. Slivinski asked what the awnings would be made out of.

Mr. McIntosh said it would not be vinyl, it would be a material, like a canvas-type material, and it would be green. He said that he'd also like to put their emblem, which is a little candle that means one memory lights another, it is the logo for the funeral home. He said that it would be on the front and side of the awning, where it says Davis.

Mr. Slivinski asked if the awnings would have an aluminum framework.

Mr. McIntosh said that is correct.

Mr. Slivinski asked if they would be taken down for any reason.

Mr. McIntosh said that he does not anticipate ever taking it down at all. He said it would have four posts, two at each end, and it would be arched, and would stay up all year long, even in the winter. He said if he gets approval for the window awnings, those would be rolled up in the winter.

Mr. Falk asked how many individual awnings would be over the windows.

Mr. McIntosh said that some of the windows are not suited for the awnings, just because of where they're located on the building, he said that he anticipates twelve awnings for the upper windows, some of the windows would not be able to fit an awning.

Mr. Falk said that awnings on the windows were not advertised, so staff would have to advertise this, as they would require a building permit and it is a permanent change to the exterior of the building, and it would require HDC review and approval.

Mr. McIntosh said that he understands.

Mr. Sampson said that in his recollection, the building had awnings in the past.

Mr. McIntosh agreed, and in some of the old photos it would show them.

Ald. Klee said that the awning would be on the Lock Street side, and asked if they would interfere with anyone walking by.

Mr. McIntosh said it would not, and the posts would be on their property not the sidewalk. He said it is a safety thing in cold weather for handicap, and it's good for people to go out and socialize.

Mr. Slivinski asked where the historic sign would go.

Mr. McIntosh said that he'd like to place it on the building, on the front of the building. He said that they have the one now that says Isaac Marshall House, Nashville, 1840, that is on the right-hand entrance of the building, a little oval sign. He said that the size is 12" x 9½", about the size of a piece of notebook paper. He said it would be a permanent bronze sign. He said that the old sign has been there for about 40 years, and the paint is starting to come off, and would like a new one. He said it would say Isaac Marshall House, 1840, Nashville.

Mr. Falk said that this particular sign is a permitted sign, and doesn't need a sign permit, it doesn't count against the wall signage that would be allowed on the building, as it's considered a name plate or historical marker sign, they can be a maximum of two square feet in any zoning district.

Mr. Slivinski said that they probably need a permit for the signage on the sides of the canopy as well.

Ald. Klee said it would be considered as advertising.

Mr. Falk said it would say Davis on two sides, with the small logo. He said that there is no wall sign right now.

**SPEAKING IN FAVOR:**

No one.

**SPEAKING IN OPPOSITION OR WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

No one.

**END OF PUBLIC HEARING, BEGINNING OF PUBLIC MEETING:**

**MOTION** by Ald. Klee to approve the request as presented and advertised. She said it would include the word Davis on the edge of the awning.

Mr. Falk said that the motion could state as submitted and shown on the submitted drawing.

Ald. Klee said she wants to put in there about the awning that it will include the logo, the candle.

Mr. Falk said that with logos, if it were golden arches, everyone would know that it's McDonalds. He said that if he saw a building with no signage on it, except a picture of a candle, he said he'd have no idea what the use of the building would be, it could be a light shop or a candle shop.

**SECONDED** by Mr. Barrett.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY PER VERBAL ROLL CALL OF THE VOTING MEMBERS.**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2022:**

No action, the Commission stated that they'd wait until there is a full Commission in attendance before electing officers.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Ald. Klee at 6:54 p.m.

CF/cf