Town of Groton

**173 Main Street**

**Groton, MA 01450**

**Historic Districts Commission**

**January 17, 2023**

**7:30 pm**

**2nd Floor Meeting Room**

**Members Present:** Peter Benedict**,** Maureen Giattino, Brian Cartier, Lisa Hicks, Jennifer Rand

**Others Present**: Karen Vanderborgh, Aisling Keating, Judy Romatelli, members of the public

**Administrative Assistant**: Amanda Urmann

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:30 pm by Chair Benedict.**

**Periwinkle Art Gallery Signage – Discussion**

Karen Vanderborg read a letter that she wrote to the HDC describing why she believes it is important to give the Periwinkle Art Gallery approval for better/more signage so that it can be displayed better to hopefully get their businesses more viable. Karen, along with others from the Periwinkle Art Gallery, are asking what they can do to get approval from the HDC so that this can be achieved. They believe that the current signage isn’t sufficient enough, that it is too small to view, especially with those who are driving. It was also noted that advertisement has been made in other avenues, such as the use of social media. The previous signage that was used that was made of stained glass and looked like a mailbox was brought up and was asked if this is something that they could use again or go off of that idea of this sign for a new one. There was discussion on this matter and it was determined that those who are affected by this should come together and brainstorm ideas on what would be appropriate for the historic district guidelines, but also so that the Periwinkle Art Gallery can be better advertised. In the meantime, the HDC agreed to allow the old stained glass mailbox sign to be put up for 6 months. The reason for this sign to not be the agreed upon sign is because since there are other tenants, the concern would be the others wanting signage similar to this for their own businesses, ectara and that is just not something that is attainable. In 6 months’ time, they should come back to the HDC and share their brainstorming ideas so that there can be something agreed on with regards to signage.

Member Giattino made a motion that the HDC allow Periwinkle Art Gallery to return the posted sign to the front of the Prescott building, adjacent to the existing sign for a period of six month and then we will come back and talk about what other things we can do. Member Cartier seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously 5-0.

**Sign Permit Application – 247 Main St (previously put as 103 Hollis)**

There was a correction to be made, which was that the sign would be at 274 Main Street and not 103 Hollis Street.

Member Giattino made a motion that the HDC approve the sign for ANAM Massage for 274 Main Street, Groton, MA per the attached artwork. Member Cartier seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously 5-0.

**Commissioner Updates - None**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Member Hicks made a motion to approve the December 13, 2022, meeting minutes as written. Member Benedict seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously 5-0.

Member Cartier made a motion to adjourn. Member Giattino seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 PM**

Respectfully Submitted By: Amanda Urmann