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My property does not belong in the Smith Meeting House historic district so I ask Gilmanton voters to approve Article 3

ed@laconiadailysun.com Mar 6, 2018

To The Daily Sun,

To the voters of Gilmanton:

I am requesting to have my properties withdrawn from the Smith Meeting House Historic District. Back when this district was first presented to my father-in-law, Fred Hiltz, the intent of the district was to prevent having the power lines go up through the Smith Meeting House (church) area. Since our properties were directly north of the Smith Meeting House Church, our property was included in the Smith Meeting House Historic District. Now that we are 50 years later, the thought of living without electricity and power is unheard of by the current generation.

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Many things have happened since the 1960s, when this district was established. The Historic District Commission has created a seven page document of rules and regulations for these properties within the boundaries of the SMH District. Upon reading the document, I feel my property does not, nor did it ever comply with any part of it. My property is on the north end of Page Road which at one time connected to the Meeting House Road but is no longer passable beyond my property. It is closer to N.H. Rte 140 and does not impact the SMH District in any way.

The restrictions imposed by the HDC have infringed on my personal rights as a homeowner. There is not any historic value of my property and while it is located on the northern edge of the district's boundary, it can not be seen from the Smith Meeting House property. My neighbors to the north and abutting my property are free to make decisions as to the color of their ranch home; or decide to have a bay window in their livingroom while I am forced to restore/build a home on my property that does not have the style of home which I can afford in my retirement.

I am asking the voters to vote YES on Article #3 to allow my properties to be removed from the Smith Meeting House Historic District. My property has been in my family since 1938 and want to keep it for the next generations to come. SO VOTE "YES" ON ARTICLE #3!

Virginia Hiltz

Gilmanton