

**DARTMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes - January 6, 2014**

RECEIVED  
2015 JAN 26 PM 10 33  
DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

Present: Philip Baker, Susan Ertelt, Joseph Ingoldsby, Peggy Latimer, Judy Lund, Bob Smith  
Absent: Bob Harding, Bev King  
Guests: Chris Styan & Brian Hawes, Apponegansett Meeting House; Mark Schmidt, architect, of Dewing & Schmidt, Peter Gates and Deborah Gates, 16 Shore Acres Road; Russ Pantoni, contractor, 22 Pinehurst St.

Judy Lund called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Judy welcomed our new member, Damon May.

Appointment of a secretary: Peggy Latimer took the minutes.

Minutes: December 2, 2013 Minutes approved unanimously.

**Demo Applications:** as may be submitted to the Building Department and received by the Historical Commission before the meeting including:

22 Pinehurst Street: Replace siding vinyl overlay, and trim in metal, house and garage. Sage green. Majority of homes in that area are already vinyl sided. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously that the house is not historically significant.

16 Shore Acres Road: Dewing & Schmidt architects adding an addition off the rear facade and minor changes to front and west side entries. Changes to window on east elevation. House is classic Greek Revival, c. 1861 with considerable later additions. Plans show continuing roof line of existing ell. Effort to emphasize Greek-Revival aspects, and scale and style of the original house. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously the proposal is in keeping with the historical qualities of the house.

**Old Business:**

**CPC update:**

- Peggy reported that Chris Styan introduced the Apponegansett roof restoration project. Peggy stated that the DHC had passed a resolution that the project was eligible as a historic preservation project. It would review the proposal at its January meeting to determine endorsement.
- The Town has submitted an eligibility application to establish a historic trust fund of \$20,000. CPC members commented that it appeared to be for covering Town administrative expenses, e.g. legal, and questioned its appropriateness as a CPC historic preservation project. This will be discussed below.
- Peggy also reported that the Russell Garrison Site Preservation Restriction was discussed. Buddy Baker-Smith stated that he and David Cressman determined that there would have to be a separate application. Peggy reviewed the resolution passed by the DHC in December. She indicated that this put undue and unnecessary burden on DHPT and the DHC, and still wondered why the example of the Russells Mills School/Library PR could not apply here. CPC determined that the budget did not have to be altered regarding misc. expenses, and that because of the nature of the project, there did not need to be a sign. Deborah Melino-Wender indicated in an e-mail that she believed that a preservation restriction should not be required due to the project being a "paperwork project."

Peggy stated that she does not agree. Mr. Baker-Smith said that the acquisition of a restriction is an option the CPC had chosen to require for this project. In addition, the Town Meeting warrant language provided for it. Judith Lund was present and said a restriction will provide protection for the land should any work on the property be proposed in the future.

- In addition, Peggy reported that Buddy had received an award from the Community Preservation Coalition, one of a number awarded annually to provide opportunity for Coalition members to meet with state legislators. Motion made, seconded, and approved unanimously to send Buddy a congratulatory letter.

Russells Mills School/Library Update: No update on the shutters. Frozen pipes due to furnace problems. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to send letter to Town that it needs to attend to this issue.

Stone Barn Report: Preservation Restriction is still outstanding: no action appears to have been taken by Audubon; Judy has suggested to Buddy Baker-Smith that he remind Audubon that a PR needs to be completed.

TTL update: Judy reports that ttl is very behind.

Plaque program: people want plaques, and no one is in charge. Susan suggests an application form go online on the Town's website; people can bring them in to Town Hall, and put it in a box; but that it needs some organizing. Susan will follow up on it. Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to use white background and surround for the new plaques. She will follow up on plaque for St. Julie's barn.

Cemeteries signs: \$54.00 available: Judy reported that DHC may have \$239 if the town does not charge for sign posts plus \$147.

Akin House: no report

Star of the Sea project: no report

Russell Garrison: National Register nomination: Peggy researched sample RPFs and passed them along to Judy along with a number of comments that might be useful to address. Judy reported that she did not know why Mr. Cressman had taken Brian Cruse's position re the PR. Peggy said Buddy has contacted the Coalition but had not heard back. Judy stated that DHPT might be willing to apply separately for PR guarantee funding if DHC prepared the application.

Dartmouth 350: The program is progressing.

Exterior of Buildings: bylaw to encourage care: No action since George resigned. Judy will follow up on this.

Open Space and Recreation committee: Bev was ill and unable to report.

Use of photographs: Establishment of a policy. Do we need the opinion of Town Counsel? Judy did some research and learned that no organizations have any policy.

#### **New Business:**

Apponegansett Meeting House: Roof replacement, asking for letter of endorsement to accompany their application to CPC. After discussion, motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to send a letter of endorsement.

Deborah Wender: letter of support for application to CPC for Historic Preservation Trust Fund: Buddy was going to inform her that it appeared unlikely that there would be interest in CPC to fund that project.

Peggy reported on the discussion at CPCs December meeting:

The Town of Dartmouth seeks to determine eligibility to create a trust of \$20,000 to fund certain expenses that include unforeseen legal fees and administrative and engineering costs relating to uncompleted projects funded with CPA funds. The funds could also be used for the development of possible new CPC projects. Members expressed concern that these trusts will eventually be depleted and the Town would be back seeking additional funding. The unforeseen costs that have been borne by the Town have largely been legal fees. When some past projects were funded, there were no provisions for certain future costs. These costs should be the Town's contribution to the projects. Going forward, project budgets should include anticipated expenses such as legal fees and administrative costs.

Hixville sign and building: The DHC sign is in poor shape and needs repainting. The former Clothier Pierce House is in terrible disrepair. The siding was removed and not replaced. Joseph will follow up with a letter to the owner.

Light fixtures for Russells Mills Historic District: Judy reported that the Historic District Commission is proposing to have "historic" light fixtures for the village and asked the DHC for comments. Members had many negative comments. Bob Smith said he was never informed as a resident. Members suggested that because of the rural nature of the village, there likely were no light fixtures until installed by the Town. There were comments that installing identical fixtures throughout the village might be historically inappropriate. Some professional expertise would be advisable.

Motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously:

If the Town and RMHDC wish to pursue historic lighting in the village, alternatives should be submitted to the residents, including making no changes; that an official public hearing be held, as required; and that any proposed changes be in compliance the Secretary the Interiors Standards.

As a 350 anniversary contribution Judy suggested re-publication of the small town history pamphlet published in 1970 entitled *History Notable Dates of the Town of Dartmouth* : Members are asked to review it for next meeting.

Annual Report of the Commission: Judy has made a summary, and Peggy made some comments. She will send it around for the members' reference.

Vote to authorize Bob Harding to request from the New Bedford Board of Library Trustees a copy of the microfilm and index of the early records of Dartmouth held by the library: motion made, seconded, and voted unanimously to approve. Bob will pay for it.

National Register list by Ken Weinstein and ttl: no report

Bob Smith raised the issue of making Russells Mills Road in the village be designated a scenic road.

Susan wants the DHC to get involved in social media.

#### **ADJOURN:**

Motion made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Next Meeting: February 3, 2014

2014 2-3 Minutes

There are no minutes for the February meeting which was cancelled by snow.