

**Dartmouth Historical Commission
Minutes: August 4, 2014**

Members Present: Judith Lund, Chair, Philip Baker, Robert Harding, Joseph Ingoldsby, Damon May, Robert Smith, Absent: Susan Ertelt, George Ripley V
Joseph Ingoldsby was appointed recording secretary for August 4, 2014.

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The July minutes were reviewed and unanimously accepted.

Demolition applications:

47 Lakewood, Christopher Crowther applicant

This circa 1921 summer home is set on cement pilings and is in the Flood Plain Zone. The house is inefficient, too small, and is to be demolished. The replacement house is being designed by Cornerstone Architecture, Swansea and engineered by Alan Heureux to meet side-lot setback requirements and beach setbacks.

The Commission deemed the circa 1921 property of no historic value and unanimously approved the demolition of the cottage.

26 Gene Street, Shaleen Barnes and Henry DeJesus applicants

This former homestead adjacent to the UMass Dartmouth campus has fallen into complete disrepair and is open to the elements. The applicants wish to demolish the house.

The Commission unanimously voted to allow the demolition of this decayed house no longer of historical significance and suggested a call to the Board of Health for mice, rat or other nuisance animals that may migrate from the fallen house to neighboring properties upon demolition.

3 Shirley Street, Kimberly A. Christopher Applicant

This is a double door garage and shed complex in disrepair off of Shipyard near Marshall Marine. The owner wishes to demolish the buildings beyond repair.

The Commission voted unanimously to allow the demolition of this no longer of historic significance shed complex beyond repair.

23 High Hill Road, Jennifer Couto, Jason Cate Applicants

This arts and crafts shingled cottage is in need of repair.

New Business:

Poole/Greene Family Burial Plot, 976 N. Hixville Road, Dartmouth, MA

The planning board had granted a permit to Mr. Lucardi, the current owner of former farmland, barn and contested William and Fannie Greene family cemetery plots. However, historic deeds clearly state, as does oral testimony by the David F. McLaughlin and his daughter Faith, that the family burial plot is on the land to be developed. The cemetery land appears to not be included in the former subdivision of the farmlands. Family history states that the headstones were taken up and removed and used as steppingstones at the farmhouse opposite the graveyard. Other stones were stacked adjacent to the recently demolished barn.

According to David F. McLaughlin his childhood memory and Mother's reminder, the graves ran along the front of the to be developed land.

The Commission has offered assistance to mitigate the issues of developing graveyard sites.

Old Business:

Telecommunications Tower, 300 Gulf Road, Dartmouth

Testimony received from former DHC members and neighbors regarding the construction of a 150-foot tower on the Concordia property.

Beverly King, Michael and Pauline Pope, and Diane Gilbert present.

They have created a website: STOPCONCORDIA.COM

They would appreciate a strong letter of concern, prior to September 25, to the Dartmouth Zoning Board of Appeal from the Dartmouth Historical Commission due to new evidence withheld from the Commission at a prior vote for conditional approval. PAL and the MA Historic Commission have prepared reports and reviews.

There are archaeological considerations, including Paleo-Indian artifacts and points, pending historic district nominations for Gulf Hill, zoning requirements for height, scenic road designation with questions raised on the viewshed. The Commission requests a review of the new evidence, once available, and the writing of a letter based on this evidence.

CPC Update: Damon May

Damon has compiled a schematic brochure to alert owners of the best alternatives to residing or shingling a house. The scope was necessarily narrow at present and is educational and illustrative in nature. Damon was encouraged by Commission members to pursue and complete the critically important work.

Westport Central Village Design Review was examined as an example of what can be achieved. Randall Arndt's books on the Village Green, and Hamlets and Townscapes were referenced. Roger Williams University Architecture program may offer technical expertise in future.

The Stone Barn Report has still not been finalized.

Cemetery signs have \$54. Available.

Correspondence shows the need to re-stain the Historic District signs in town.

Plaque Program:

The application form for historic plaques is to be revised. The plaques are for historically significant or unique structures. The signs are to be completed by Signature Sign Company for the owner of the house once approved by the Commission and a \$50 fee paid.

Bob Harding reported on the historic plaque to be installed at St. Julie's Church barn.

The Isaac Barker Farm became the site for Saint Julie's Church. The stable is historically significant with illustrious owners and unique period construction detailing.

Mention is made of the unique turnstile on the David Degas property on Chase Road by Bob Harding.

Mention is made of the loss of farms and historic stands of century old trees in town by Joseph Ingoldsby. A report was sent to the Planning Board, who state that in future each plan will ask the developer to spare significant trees that give context to the place as part of the development plans.

Mention is made of the new Padanaram Bridge reconstruction. The redesign will improve flow of the stagnant upland waters. The original wooden basket structure of 1901 allowed for flow. The rebuilt bridge after the Hurricane of 1938 did not. Further work was completed in 1960. The new design hopes to correct old problems, and add sidewalks and lighting. A letter is to be prepared and sent with the Commission's concerns.

The resignation letter of Susan Ertelt was read and sadly accepted by the members, who spoke highly of her contributions and energy to the Commission. Members had sent notes to her privately expressing their regrets.

A letter of thanks is to be sent to former member Peggy Latimer for her work on the Commission.

The Commission adjourned and will meet again Monday September 8 at the new time of 6:30 PM.

Dartmouth Historical Commission

Meeting Notes For September 8, 2014 6:30 PM

Members Present: Phillip Baker, Robert Harding, Joseph Ingoldsby, Judith Lund, Chair, Damon May, George Ripley V, Robert Smith.

Recording Secretary: Damon May was appointed Recording Secretary for September 8, 2014

Meeting Notes for August 4, 2014 were reviewed and unanimously accepted.

Demolition Applications

318 Chase Rd (Demolition) The Commission deemed the property of historic value and voted to hold a public hearing on the matter of demolition delay

772 Dartmouth Street Addition (Demolition) The Commission deemed the property of no historic value and unanimously approved the demolition of the property.

43 Buttonwood (Vinyl Siding) The Commission deemed the property of no historic value and unanimously approved siding of the property.

Old Business

CPC update: Damon reported notion approved for DHC to sanction.

Russells Mills Library Update: No update

Stone Barn Report: Sign Preservation Restriction Commission will not approve (again) pending approval by Michael Steinetz.

TTL update: Approve payment of \$1160 for first part of this phase. Described as routine by Judy. Unanimously approved; will be forwarded to CPC.

Cemeteries: Signs \$54.00 available No discussion

Akin House Update by Diane Gilbert; Roger Williams students (3-4) to work with; Joe Booth's master plan for facility complete and will be reviewed by board.

Star of the Sea No news to report.

Russell Garrison: National Register Nomination update Chair spoke with Deborah Wender regarding; do not need to put out a number of RFP's; Judy approached PAL; \$5000 fee will be required.

Dartmouth 350 Judy updated on Dartmouth UK Lord Mayor & delegations

Exterior of Buildings: by-law to encourage care (Damon May) No news to report.

Smith Mills Book (Bob Harding) Work continues.

Telecommunications Tower, 300 Gulf Road Judy updated; Pending report from PAL, DHC cannot vote on. DHC voted to write ZBA informing them of status.

Scanning old Form B's No update

Cemetery 884 Builder asserts town's requirements have been met. No owner has been identified to challenge builder's assertion that he owns the land. As reported, responsibility belongs to owner alone for this.

New Business

Request from Audubon to make changes to Tractor Barn Motion approved for DHC to sanction.

Repair of old village signs and possible new signs; possible funding Discussion ensued

regarding DHC's role in providing inventory of signs; also possible signs that may be included in inventory.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: October 6, 2014