

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS



**GREAT BARRINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Special Meeting Minutes from December 1st, 2016**

Town Hall

7:30 pm

Attendees-

Donald Howe, Chair
James Mercer, Vice-Chair
Patricia Ryan, Alternate
Abby Schroder, Alternate

Not Present- Holly Troiano, Secretary; Barbara Syer, Member

Town Officials- Paul Ivory, Chair of Historical Commission; Robert Gaughran for John Dewey Academy; and Members of Press

Meeting opened and called to order by Chair Howe at 7:42 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to open public hearing by James Mercer with a second by Abby Schroder. All present voted in favor.

Main Street JDA Sign- Robert Gaughran of the John Dewey Academy presented the application for Removal of the existing Sign Panel and Installation of a new, replacement Sign Panel within the Existing Metal Bracket/Support. Robert agreed to proceed with the Public Hearing with only four members present, who would all need to vote the same concurrently for approval. Robert noted the New Sign will have an additional note about the JDA not being open to the public. The Present Note about Searles Castle will be eliminated. New lettering will be Black on an off-white background. JDA will review installing a Bronze plaque in the future. Sign Lighting may be added in the future.

Signage update came as part of a safety review by JDA. New sign will be synthetic material with integral lettering on the surfaces.

There was not any public comment.

Motion to close public hearing by Patricia Ryan with a second by Abby Schroder. All present voted in favor.

Motion made by Abby Schroder for approval of new Main Street JDA Sign as presented and seconded by Patricia Ryan. Motion passed with members Howe, Mercer, Ryan and Schroder voting in favor (None opposed) of issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness.

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Stone Balcony Removal- Chair Howe asked Robert for an update on the status of the previous certificate regarding the removal of a Stone balcony that was endangering an emergency exit at the Main Building. Robert noted that the Balcony had been removed and now is stored in one of the basements of the Main Building. Robert noted that the Stone brackets were salvaged, but approximately one-third of the other Stone materials were lost.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Howe noted that Michael Charles of Benchmark Development would not be coming before the Board as noted in the public agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Historic Resources- Paul Ivory, Chair of G.B. Historical Commission, came before this Commission at the request of Chair Howe to update the HDC on the status of the MHA Grant to update Historical Resources in the Town.

Chair Ivory noted that Larson Fisher Associates has been hired to do a much-needed update on the Town's Inventory List. This List could be used in the future for a Demolition Delay Bylaw. The Survey of approximately 136 properties by Larson Fisher Associates will have four review phases with a completion date scheduled for June 30th, 2017.

Motion to adjourn by Abby Schroder with a second by Patricia Ryan.
All present voted in favor

Next HDC Regular Meeting is scheduled for January 19th, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Donald V. Howe', is written over a horizontal line.

Donald V. Howe, Chair
February-28-2017