

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS



**GREAT BARRINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Special Meeting Minutes from September 29th, 2016**

Town Hall

6:30 pm

Attendees-

Donald Howe, Chair
James Mercer, Vice-Chair
Holly Troiano, Secretary
Barbara Syer, Member
Patricia Ryan, Alternate
Abby Schroder, Alternate

Town Officials- Joe Sokul, DPW Superintendent; Ed Abrahams, Selectboard
Benchmark Development- Michael Charles, Brian Cohan

Meeting opened and called to order by Chair Howe at 6:30pm.

MEETING MINUTES

Motion made by Pat Ryan to approve Minutes from the Regular August 18th Meeting as written with a second by Barbara Syer. All present voted in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING

Motion to open public hearing by Barbara Syer with a second by Holly Troiano. All present voted in favor.

Joe Sokul, DPW superintendent presented five items of improvements at Town Hall.

Roof & Cornice Repairs- Joe Sokul, DPW Superintendent, presented the Bidding Documents of the Roof & Cornice Repair at Town Hall. The Roof and Cornice Repairs are expected to involve 120 days of construction. The work includes removal of existing roof surfaces, installation of new asphalt shingles (Gray) on sloped surfaces, membrane roof on the flat area at center, repairs of wood eave/cornice trim including replacement. Costs of the project is approximately \$250,000 and the work will begin in May/June 1917 after approval at Town Meeting through the CPA funding.

Motion made by Holly Troiano that the Roofing and Cornice work was appropriate and seconded by James Mercer. Motion passed with members Howe, Mercer, Troiano, Syer, and Ryan voting in favor (None opposed) of issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness.

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Brownstone Entrance Steps Repairs- Joe Sokul is getting proposals from contractors which will remove paint and perform cleaning on the existing three (3) sets of steps and then steps will be aligned and reset with all joints being filled with appropriate mortar. At the side entrance to the Registry of Deeds, the concrete patch step will be replaced with a new Brownstone unit to match the existing profiles. All steps will be sealed and the existing handrails will be repainted.

Motion made by Abby Schroder that Brownstone Entrance Steps Repair work was appropriate and seconded by Barbara Syer. Motion passed with members Howe, Mercer, Troiano, Syer, and Schroder voting in favor (None opposed) of issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness.

HVAC Split System Units- Joe Sokul has proposals for an additional unit to air-condition the Selectboard Meeting Room on the second floor. This space has a high occupancy which produces loads beyond the capacity of the window unit presently installed. The options of installing the new exterior unit on the existing wall which would be the same as the South side or installing this new unit on the roof were presented. The Board expressed the roof installation as preferred. Joe Sokul would get back to the Board if there the roof installation became unfeasible.

Motion made by James Mercer that the HVAC Split System Unit work was appropriate and seconded by Holly Troiano. Motion passed with members Howe, Mercer, Troiano, Syer, and Ryan voting in favor (None opposed) of issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Exedra Seating Restoration and Repairs- Joe Sokul has had Tom Farley do trimming and thinning of the Yew Plantings at the rear of the seating tp. The Base for the fountain is proposed to be replaced with new Deer Isle granite to match the existing profiles. The existing bowl will be reinstalled. The mortar joints will have the loose mortar removed and new soft mortar will be installed. All other existing stone surfaces will be cleaned and sealed.

Motion made by Holly Troiano that the Exedra Seating Restoration and Repair work was appropriate and motion seconded by Barbara Syer. Motion passed with members Howe, Mercer, Troiano, Syer, and Ryan voting in favor (None opposed) of issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Resistance Marker Relocation- The present Marker is now being visually blocked by the new electrical power equipment. The present location is where the replacement marker for the damaged unit to limit exposure to being hit by a motor vehicle. The Town Manger will have final say on the actual location which be approximately centered between the Exedra seating and the present location.

The War Memorials were also reviewed. The WWII under the Spruce tree would be located next to WWI Memorial at the right side of Town Hall. The Veterans are interested in locating a

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new WWII Memorial listing the names of Veterans similar to the WWI Memorial relocated from the Searles School complex.

Motion made by Abby Schroder that the Resistance Marker and War Memorial Monument Relocation was appropriate and motion seconded by Holly Troiano. Motion passed with members Howe, Mercer, Troiano, Syer, and Schroder voting in favor (None opposed) of issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness.

Motion to close public hearing by Barbara Syer with a second by Holly Troiano. All present voted in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Michael Charles and Brian Cohan of Benchmark Development came before the Board for an initial review of their proposed development at 42 Bridge Street which has a portion of the Searles Castle Property as part of their overall lot. They will be coming forward at a Historic District Commission Meeting to present their proposal at a Public Hearing.

Motion to adjourn by Barbara Syer with a second by Abby Schroder.
All present voted in favor

Next HDC Regular Meeting is scheduled for October 20th, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Donald V. Howe'.

Donald V. Howe, Chair
October-21-2016