

**HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 15, 2008 AT HILDRETH HOUSE**

Present: Jonathan Feist (chair), Roseanne Saalfield, Rudy Minar, Chris Cutler, John Martin, Jim Breslauer

Absent: Rhonda Sprague, Susan Frechette, Doug Coutts

Meeting called to order at 7:42 p.m.

Initially the Commission discussed a system for recording minutes of meetings. It was decided that the minute taking duties would rotate, alphabetically, among the Commissioners. If it is a Commissioner's turn to record the meeting and the Commissioner will not be able to attend, it will be that Commissioner's responsibility to notify the next-scheduled person of their suddenly-advanced obligation. The absent Commissioner will be expected to record the following meeting.

Old Business:

Review of the December, 2007 meeting minutes. Motion by Roseanne, seconded by Chris to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed 5 – 0 with Jim abstaining.

New Business:

Reports:

The draft Annual Report circulated by Jonathan was discussed. Commissioners discussed various possible additions, including noting the receipt of a contribution from the Harvard Women's Club. Roseanne moved to accept the modified annual report, seconded by John. Motion passed unanimously.

Doug distributed a revised draft of proposed **Design Guidelines**. Commissioners discussed its contents and how and to whom a final version ought to be distributed. Doug will send an electronic version to all Commissioners. Commissioners are to send comments to Doug who will have editorial authority for the final version. Rudy will look at options for printing and binding. Roseanne moved to accept the Design Guidelines subject to final edits, John seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion ensued about the old Historical Commission's flyer. We will attempt to find an electronic version and update it.

Rudy distributed a draft of Rules and Regulations for the HHC. It was decided that Commissioners would review the draft and discuss it at the next meeting. Comments from Commissioners who would not be able to attend the next meeting could be sent to Rudy.

Shaker Herb House. Jonathan reported that \$3,000 has been approved to repair/replace the doors. North Bennett St. School will begin the work when weather permits. An approach will be made to the Harvard Garden Club to see if they have any interest in

becoming involved in this project. A suggestion that we have an open house when all work is completed was favorably received.

Map project. John distributed copies of the town center historic district (copy attached). He noted that the new Bromfield school is excluded from the district as is the elementary school. The entire Hildreth House property is within the district. We would like to erect signs indicating when one is entering the Historic District. The Community Preservation Commission rejected our application for sign funding, indicating that the proposal was not sufficiently detailed. We will attempt to come up with a design and re-submit the proposal. Roseanne volunteered to attempt to collect several different models for discussion. We hope to make a decision at the April meeting.

Shaker cemetery. Jonathan let the discussion that the HHC needs to find a conservator and obtain more than one bid for the restoration work. We will work with Susan to develop a plan and move the project forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Breslauer