

## Harvard Historical Commission

### Meeting of 8/19/08

**Members present:** D. Coots, J. Feist (Chairman), S. Frechette, R. Saalfield

**Members absent:** C. Cutler, J. Martin, R. Minar, R. Sprague

*A hearing for an application for a certificate of appropriateness by the Congregational Church was called to order at 7:40 p.m.*

The board of the church, whose address is 5 Still River Road, has petitioned the HHC for permission to renovate and expand the church 'including relocation of the current entrance, Second Floor expansion to full height, and a 24 x 33 ft (approximately 850 sf) addition to the front right (west) of the existing Still River building.'

*After more than an hour of discussion members unanimously approved the church's design, with requests for changes or additional information as detailed below:*

1.

The architect was asked to submit additional designs for the fenestration at the rear (south) of the building where a pair of windows (the higher one designed with a circle head) that allow light onto a new stairwell and into the new entrance hall appeared to some members to be awkward in its asymmetry and scale.

2.

The architect agreed to research a different paneling geometry in the formal front door if he could find a stock door with either two or four panels that were rectangular (instead of the six square panels in the original design). The entryway will be redesigned to be more rectangular than square.

3.

The architect's choice of a low-maintenance concrete composite material (*Hardiplank*) for the clapboards of the addition was accepted with the understanding that the church's date of construction (1961) does not require the HHC to request historically appropriate materials (in this case, wooden clapboards) on the addition.

4.

Similarly commissioners agreed to permit the architect's choice of double-hung, triple glazed sash windows in the addition, despite their snap-in muntins, because of the recent date of the original building's construction.

*Commissioners unanimously agreed that Lyn Horowitz would be an excellent new appointee to the committee.*

We will recommend to the BoS that Horowitz be the BOS appointee, long-time member (and former commission Chair) John Martin will become an alternate member, and Roseanne Saalfield will be the Conservation Commission appointee.

*S. Frechette announced that on Saturday September 6 (at 10 a.m.) a survey of the existing conditions at the Shaker Cemetery will be conducted.*

She needs 20 volunteers to help with this survey. She is hopeful that a potential private source of matching funds for the cemetery's renovation will be found. (The last survey of the grave markers was done in 1984. S. Frechette fears that there are now fewer markers than were there 20 years ago.) Frechette wonders whether we should consider replacing the current markers with replicas or, in fact, honoring the Shakers' desire for the markers to eventually be replaced with a single marker. (If this were the solution we would need to find a proper site as a repository for the original markers). If we chose to leave the markers in situ she would like to research our options for securing them in the ground. J. Feist agreed that after September 6 a meeting of all involved decision makers should be scheduled.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Roseanne Saalfield*