

Minutes of the Harvard Historical Commission

Regular Meeting, Hapgood Library

January 5, 2010

Members present: C. Cutler, D. Coots, J. Feist, J. Martin, R. Minar, R. Saalfield, R. Sprague, J. Wollaston

Member absent: L. Horowitz

- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Minutes of the December meeting accepted unanimously.
- J. Feist announced that on Saturday January 30 a meeting will be held to discuss the disposition of the former Town Library, the Hildreth House and the current Town Hall. D. Coots is an active member of the committee making its report.
- At 7:45 Chair opened discussion of Two Stonecutter's Path and the owners' application to change the exterior color of the house paint. Unaware that their property was within the bounds of the historic district the owners began to paint the house and petitioned the HHC for comment once the job was begun. Members unanimously accepted the change of paint color (to Benjamin Moore's historic Sherwood Green HC118.)
- R. Saalfield updated commissioners on status of historic district sign production. Signs will be completed this week and installed in April. C. Cutler has agreed to mock up the method used to attach the signs to the posts well before the installation. If needed one or more of us will work with the installation crew from the DPW.
- Chair suggested we brainstorm in June the volunteer projects that high school students, with community service obligations, might help us do. C. Cutler and R. Sprague will contact the high school.
- J. Wollaston chaired the public hearing on J. Feist's property, a project which involves repairing and re-installing the slate roof, removing the cupola and restoring the cornice. The roof, which has significant problems with leaks, is in need of repair, the cupola is presumed to be an addition later than the time the house was constructed (post 1857, likely in the 1920's), and the cornice has degraded and been changed. Plywood sheathing will be installed below the slate shingles. Used slate will be purchased and blended with the re-used slate now on the roof. Half of the project will be done this year, half next. Members unanimously approved Feist's application.
- Feist updated members on Fruitlands contribution of \$100.00 to our Science Fair award. Tim Firment, Fruitlands CEO, will participate as a judge, as will Rudy Minar who will represent the HHC. Also participating in our award is the Harvard Historic Society. We have stated publicly that we are interested in 'projects that apply scientific disciplines such as archeology, geology,

- engineering, chemistry, and physics to the history or material culture of the Harvard area and its preservation.’
- D. Coots updated the group on the all-boards presentation he made this evening with Pat Jennings, Ron Ostberg, Peter Warren, Lucy Wallace – the task force that has been studying the re-use of the former town library. A key focus of the group has been to study whether the former library would serve as a new town hall. The presentation was to the Board of Selectmen. They have further persuaded the BOS to look at all town-owned buildings. The format for that study will be a public forum on Saturday Jan 30, all morning. Adjacent changes – sidewalks, parking - and funding would also be studied and discussed.
 - R. Minar presented the latest draft of the new HHC ‘Application for Certificate’ , a double-sided form. Changes were made and approved. He will incorporate changes suggested tonight, circulate a draft once more and ask that each member come to the next meeting with their complete mark up. Minar suggested a lawyer review the final draft before it is printing and loaded onto our web site.
 - Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roseanne Saalfield