

Minutes of the Harvard Historic Commission – November 2 2010

Members present: D. Coots, C. Cutler, J. Feist (Chair), J. Martin, R. Minar, R. Saalfield, R. Sprague, K. Swanton, J. Wollaston

Meeting called to order at 7: 32 p.m.

- Minutes of the October meeting were unanimously accepted.
- Minutes of the October 24 Perambulation of Shaker Village were accepted.
- Unanimous approval was given to the Town Clerk's application for HHC sponsorship of her request for \$27k in CPC funds for the restoration of historic documents.
- The first annual SV Perambulation was a huge success, with approximately 20 walkers who all ambled back to J. Feist's house for their pot luck festivities at the end of the walk. Commissioners speculated about why the SV Perambulation was more popular with the public than the spring Perambulation around the Common historic district. Is it the Shakers and their story, the scheduling of the walk on a Sunday rather than a Tuesday evening, the fact that SV is not only beautiful but off the beaten path and therefore a destination for Harvard residents who do not visit the village that often that made this event popular? Members agreed to discuss at a later date the scheduling of the next perambulation and whether one or two perambulations per year should be scheduled.
- R. Minar submitted his final draft of the new Operating Guidelines and the commission unanimously approved them.
- R. Saalfield and R. Sprague had no report on the status of the Shaker Burial Ground restoration.
- D. Coots reported on the restoration reports he has received from architectural firms in the last few weeks. Coots asked if instead of a preservation report we would want to engage a firm to begin both the preservation report and the needed work itself. Some portion of the \$100k the CPC (and town meeting) has voted for work to the exterior of the building could be devoted to the supervision of the construction work itself. Coots wants to talk with Town Administrator Tim Bragan about his feelings regarding this approach. Coots asked for a show of hands supporting his request of Tim Bragan to approve the Municipal Bldg Committee's proposal to sign a contract with their preferred architectural firm (Menders, Torrey &

Spencer, Inc). Coots will attempt to negotiate a change to the firm's calendar to better meet the realities of the town's financial calendar and funding cycle. Members supported this approach.

- Cutler reported that he had talked with Maggie Green (Fruitlands) about our co-sponsorship of a Science Fair prize. They will be meeting soon.
- Cutler will paint the historic district signs soon.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roseanne Saalfield