

April 6 2011 minutes of the Harvard Historic District

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

Members absent: none

Meeting called to order: 7 38 p.m.

- The minutes of both the March 2, 2011 and the March 11, 2011 were unanimously approved, with slight editorial changes.
- Coots was congratulated for the resounding vote of approval at the April 2, 2011 ATM vote for the request for funds made by the **Municipal Building Committee** with the last minute full approval of the full BOS as a result of a compromise warrant article brokered by Town Administrator Tim Bragan. The expectation now is that the BOS will soon go forward in the search for and hiring of an architect for the Town Hall and the Hildreth House.
- One year remains on the **100k funding awarded to the MBC** by the CPC at ATM 2010. On June 1, 2012 these funds will sunset. Very likely the HHC will be obligated to review the plans, probably in June, for the disposition of the \$100k awarded by the CPC in 2010 for expenditure at Town Hall only.
- Wollaston will contact DPW head Rick Nota to arrange for the new **Still River Road historic district sign be moved** to its correct position at eastern border of the Common historic district. Wollaston noticed the improper placement of that sign when the district was signed a year ago.

- Minar will research the issue of **historical plaques** for the next meeting.
- Feist reported on an inquiry made by reporter Valerie Hurley (of the Harvard Press) regarding the HHC performance in relation to the **town Master Plan** that is legally obliged to be updated this year. More discussion will follow.
- J. Hayes and G. Hayes have again come before the board with their 'petition for hardship' in relation to the HHC failure to award them a Certificate of Appropriateness at the meeting of March 11, 2011. The hearing of 4/6/2011 is a continuation of the March 11, 2011. Feist clarified a procedural issue in relation to the vote tonight, all agreeing that those who voted originally would be the only voters at this meeting (Feist, Saalfield, Wollaston, Minar, Sprague). The commission's task is to 'determine if the petition represents a hardship' as defined by Mass General Law Chapter 40C. Deliberations proceeded as if the work had not yet been done. A majority of members voted to award Mr. Hayes a Certificate of Hardship for this project. The windows installed at **2 and 6 Littleton Road** may remain in place.
- A vote was taken for the new **HHC liaison to the CPC**. The two commission members who have expressed an interest in this role are Rudy Minar and Rhonda Sprague. Minar was elected. The job description of CPC liaison will be added to the Rules and Procedures manual at this time.
- Saalfield was unanimously elected next Chair of the HHC, to serve a one year term.

Respectfully submitted,

Roseanne Saalfield

