

Meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission on Dec 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm

Members present: Pam Marston, Rhonda Sprague, Barbara Hadad, Ken Swanton, Chris Cutler, John Martin and Doug Coots as chair

Audience: Whit Sprague, Jack Spero, Joe Hutchinson, Sydney Blackwell, Mr. and Mrs. Milford

Previous meeting minutes discussion:

Minutes were accepted as amended.

New member

Barbara Hadad was welcomed as the newest member.

Cemetery Commission CPC Application

Cemetery Committee Chair Jack Spero was here to request a sponsorship for their application to the CPC funds to take down some trees in the cemetery that are potential hazards to the markers. They are planning to remove all markers and put planks down to protect the ground during the work. The tree company will grind stumps and reseed making it easier to maintain the cemetery. The estimate is \$11,500-\$14,000 for eight trees. Acorn Tree (Bilodeau) has a crane to make tree removal easier. No money is available until spring so we will not do it until June or July. Doug C feels that we should sponsor the project. John M also.

CPC applications we have sponsored this year have been the town hall renovation, repair of the Congregational Church columns, and the Town Hall records preservation. The historic value of the Shaker Cemetery Tree Removal project is clear. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public hearing for Milford at South Shaker Road opened at 7:30

Rhonda and Pam had viewed the site and had seen very little of the array area from the road. The area is hidden by evergreens (which in our decision making should be ignored). Discussion of the various views ensued. The public made no comment. The public hearing was closed. A motion was made to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness. The chairman reviewed the specifications of the array. We discussed the application and the size. The motion passed unanimously.

Filling empty commission seats

Doug talked about how the latest members were appointed by BoS. The Commission reviewed a draft of Ken's letter to *The Press* and the *Harvard Hillside* asking for candidates to come to our board to discuss the openings, and then we would go with them before the Conservation Commission and BoS. Doug C will add the changes discussed to the letter and will send it to the newspapers.

Solar Guidelines

Solar guidelines created by John M were discussed as part of a new draft of The Design Guidelines posted on our website. Doug C will add it to the Guidelines and redo it with Pam M's grammatical and spelling corrections.

Historic District homeowners

Rhonda S will send letters to homeowners in the Historic districts giving them the information about being in an historic district. Doug C will send her a list of all owners.

Pam M passed out the Operating Guidelines for the commission. The commission voted to:

Delete the Operating Guidelines Art 4, 5, 6

Add a header reading "Excerpts from Chapter 48 By Law".

Sorting Town Records

Chris C will help John M with sorting the town records.

Maps

We discussed town maps and having them approved at ATM.

Commission Elections

We discussed having elections. Ken will be available to be chair.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Marston