

HHC meeting on Jan 4, 2012

Meeting of HHC was called to order at 7:08 pm

Members present: Doug Coots, acting chair, John Martin, Chris Cutler, Ken Swanton, Pam Marston, Barbara Hadad

Members absent: Rhonda Sprague,

Audience: Joe Theriault, newspaper reporter

Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting, Dec 7 were amended and approved.

Candidate for the Commission

Doug's letter to the *Press* and *Hillside* last month asked that anyone interested in joining the HHC attend the next meeting. Joe Theriault responded to that letter expressing an interest. He attended the meeting in order to enlighten us about his qualifications. He discussed his interests and his outlook to the future of Harvard. He has been a member of Harvard Historical Society serving as Vice president and President and led improvement and restoration projects on the Still River Meetinghouse. He has visited 4th graders at HES with historical artifacts for a "Show and Tell" of Harvard's History. He has written a book about Acadian families and currently has another one in the offing. He is currently a member of the Board of Assessors. He feels that a building, when looked at with its history, can give us an inner look into history. Our commission would like to be able to educate people in town about the various historical districts and how to judge a building's value to a community. We can advocate for an historical site even though it may not be in an historical district, such as one Joe has been studying - John Prescott's old Mill Pond.

Annual report discussion

Doug presented a draft of the report from our committee for the town's Annual Report. We made changes.

Choosing a new chair

A motion was made and seconded to elect Ken Swanton as the new chairman of the HHC. He was voted in unanimously.

Choosing a secretary

It was decided that next time we will vote on a secretary. In the meantime, Pam and Barbara will help Ken with any mailings or other duties.

Town Hall records

John and Chris will see what is up on the second floor as regards any HHC records and report back.

Harvard Press Q and A

It was decided that we will postpone the Q and A session with the *Press*.

Applicant Discussion

The Commission discussed the qualifications of the candidate (Joe Theriault) feeling that he was eminently qualified and will be sponsored by HHC and recommended to the Conservation Commission and ultimately to the BoS.

Ongoing business

Doug encouraged HHC members to attend some of the MBC meetings, so to understand the developing plans for the Town Hall and Hildreth House.

Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 1, 2012

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Marston