

Harvard Historic Commission

Regular Meeting - Periodicals Room, Old Library

May 1, 2013 at 7 PM

"Oversee modifications to the Harvard Common and Shaker Village Historic Districts in accordance with the state and local bylaws, and generally support historic preservation in Harvard."

Members present were: Ken Swanton, Joe Theriault, Pam Marston, Chris Cutler, John Martin, and Rhonda Sprague

Members absent: Barbara Hadad

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm.

Town Hall Building Committee

THBC presented an update on the renovation. At this point we are in the informal discussion stage.

The architects presented a slide show of photos of the original building and drawings of the proposed building. The commissioners expressed a concern about the connecting tall windows in the addition and the old entrance being closed except as an emergency egress. The commission feels that the new addition should echo features of the original building. The cupola design looks like the original one so that is a positive. There was a concern about the lack of shutters in the plans. Pete said they could be added at a later date when we had money.

At the next meeting, June 5th, the architects will present the plans pretty much as what we saw tonight. We need to notify the whole district regarding a public hearing. Pam will send out notices to the abutters and Ken will put a notice in the *Press* announcing a public hearing for June 5, 2013 at 7:15 pm. We will meet May 8th at 7:30 am to approve the application for Certificate of Appropriateness.

We may ask the MA Architectural Access Board for a variance to use the original front door in addition to the new front door. The town will have to apply for that variance.

House Markers

The historic house markers initiative is ready to go. Grafix is willing to accept approved applications.

Operating guidelines discussion. We will read these and make recommendations. We will discuss each section at a time. Certain parts will change over time. We will call it policies and procedures.

AIA replacement. Rudi has some names. We will advertize for an architect.

Other Business

The tree cutting, stump grinding and replacement of the markers at the Shaker Burial ground are done. The highway department will clean up the area.

CPC funding will be asking for submissions. We could ask for tree clearing around the burial ground. HHC would sponsor this. Joe will talk with conservation commission about removing trees.

Adjourned 9:19 pm

Next meeting June 5, 2013

Respectfully submitted by
Pamela Marston, Secretary