

Historical Commission Meeting – Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Meeting begins 7:02 Members that are present:

Ken Swanson, Moe Dancause, Ron Ostberg, Chris Cutler, John Martin, Sherry Graham

Audience, Harvard Hillside Reporter, Mr. Munoz.

Review of minutes, minor changes Motion by Chris to approve with all minor changes, seconded by Ron, all approved.

Review of 113 S. Shaker application – Mr. Munoz, homeowner wants to add solar panels to garage. Chris asked Mr. Munoz about where home sits on road, and view from driveway. Ron asks about solar panels in historic districts. Ken says we make room for modern technology. Panels should be placed on barns or garage and panels should be kept at minimal view. Ken says we got application late, Mr. Munoz to sign extension so we can rule Nov. 6. Ken, John, Ron discussing panels. Ken says is this a large enough issue to have a meeting, John asks what color the panels are. Ken says we have approved in the past in the area. John makes motion to regard application as a substantial change and a hearing needs to be scheduled to notify the district of the change, John seconds and all in favor yes.

Review of 74 Shaker application – Muller place – Mrs. Ball is representing Mr. Muller. The application is to repair a leaky roof and change the existing wood shingles with slate or other material. Ken asks is this a significant change, John says yes. Ron wants to know what the other roofs in the area are and what material is used. John makes motion that this is a substantial change and the district should be notified, seconded, all in favor, yes.

Review of 13 Mass Ave application to install a fence – Hu place – Mr. and Mrs. Hu turn in an application to add a fence to their property to keep the children from using their yard as a cut through as they walk to school. Sherry makes a motion that this is a substantial change and the district should be notified, Moe seconds, all in favor yes. Ron wants more material and wants a view from Fairbanks Street to see where the fence will be and wants to know what color the fence will be.

Library Stone Wall Rebuild – in previous years Prisoners from Devens did the work. Ron talks we need formal guidelines to maintain repairs in common and around schools. Discussion on who requested funds for wall repair.

Town Hall Project – a town hall meeting 1.4 million more additional funds being asked for by taxpayers. Ken asks question to Chris does Historical Commission play a role in the overage. Chris says original bid was substantially under bid. Ron, Sherry, Chris and Ken agree something should be stated about the preservation of the building, whether the article for the extra money passes or not, the Historical Commission should point out that the town hall is a very important contributing structure to the Harvard Town Center historic district and should be preserved and preserved well, however being neutral and without taking a position on the article. Moe, Chris, Sherry, John and Ron agree, no formal motion was made. Chairman will be prepared to make a statement if necessary.

Ongoing Projects –

Historical plaque program – Pam was out so this was skipped

Documentation for CPC of spending on old \$100k article – John said application went in on time.

CPC application to remove trees surrounding the Shaker burial ground – working out all the details.

Any reports from Liaisons to: CPC, Master Plan, HCC – Joe was out so this was skipped

Establishing HHC Operation Guidelines – Joe out so skipped, but it's moving along.

Motion to adjourn by Moe, Chris seconds, All in favor Yes, meeting ends at 8:45

Sherry Graham