

HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

13 AYER ROAD • HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01451



The Harvard Historical Commission is chartered "...to preserve and protect the historic assets of Harvard, its buildings, structures, places, sites, and surrounding settings of historical or architectural significance."

Following are the minutes for the regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission at Hildreth House, 15 Elm Street on January 7, 2015 at 7PM.

TOPICS:

TIME

CALL TO ORDER

7:07

ATTENDANCE: Joe Theriault, Pam Marston, Ron Ostberg, Rick Veltri, Sherry Graham and Moe Dancause

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: December 3, 2014 minutes were approved as read by a unanimous vote.

AUDIENCE

Residents Steve Nigzus, Lynn Crowley, Janet Beaty, Selectman Ken Swanton (BOS), Jack Guswa (THCC Liaison)

PUBLIC COMMENTARY & INTRODUCTIONS

7:10

-Steve Nigzus, Madigan Lane resident, was at the meeting to clarify some questions he had regarding renovating a building he bought in the Center. He must remove the shutters as they have lead paint. He will replace with new shutters. He will save 6 old shutters and move them up to the second floor as allowed in renovations of this type. The commissioners suggested that there were several types of shutters in various materials. He need not replace with wooden shutters but with ones that look like they are wood. He had a sample shutter with him that commissioners felt would be appropriate. HHC asked him to work with a commissioner in order to prepare the application completely. Sherry volunteered to help him. He also plans on new gutters, a fence and lights in the parking area. Commissioners suggested that no exposed bulbs be used but that they be in a fixture with the light shining down from above.

PUBLIC HEARING: - 5 Oak Hill Fence Installation (JT)

7:15

-Janet Beaty attended the meeting as a homeowner who had made an application to install a fence along her property line where a privacy hedge had existed but had been cut down. The fence will be white stained pine similar to an existing fence on her property. The vote to approve her application was unanimous in favor. Susan Lee, an HHC volunteer and historian of note, created a history of Janet's House. This was presented to Janet at the meeting. Janet was thrilled with the gift.

OTHER APPLICATIONS:

- General Store Bike Shop Sign (CC): no discussion

- Powder House Door (MD): COA issued. Robert Adam has purchased the door material and will start working on it. There is \$5000 left from the insurance payment. About \$1500 will be used to finish the door and some other carpentry. A suggestion was made to use some of the money to move large boulders in place above the building to protect it. With any remaining money the inside could be finished.

- Town Hall Renovation (RO): HHC will review communications with THCC. The application for TH renovation presented by Tim Bragan to HHC was incomplete. Joe will write a letter to BoS and THCC suggesting that the application could be presented again with a description of the planned work, for example: Replace the existing roof, install insulation, replace the existing clapboards, replace some of the ornamentation that cannot be salvaged. Currently, in the budget, new windows are an alternate and the cupola is a second alternate.

A bid is expected by February 3, 2015. HHC commissioners would like to see the newest plans ASAP. The plans should be at the special HHC meeting, Monday, January 12, 2015 along with explanations from the THCC. HHC will send a letter to THCC asking for plans and clarification of items in question.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- Status of Open Applications: - Bromfield Stone Wall (CC): Status. On Hold. No discussion
- Status of Endorsed Projects: - Hildreth House (CC): Status. Ken described the plan of action for the renovation. Status of project is not clear.
- Status of Action Items (See Action Item List)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

- Admin Working Group (WG): No report.
- Communications WG (JT): Report cancelled in the interest of time.
- Historic Districts WG: - Warrant Article for Digital District Maps: HHC talked with the planning board. They will sponsor a modification of the maps. They asked if HHC would join them for a public hearing. The commission agreed.
- Historic Properties WG (SG): Status StartUp; Present plan for Commission approval:

The work group is starting to set up the data base and enter the information. Group members will take updated photos of the homes in the historic district. Commissioners approved the plan.

- Historic House Marker Program (PM): There have been 5 signs approved and delivered. One is in process.
- Membership Cmte (JT):
 - Nominations (CC) (Nominate new Vice-Chair, Action 1): As Acting Chair of the Membership Cmte, Joe Theriault nominated Moe Dancause as Vice-Chair. The Commission voted to unanimously elect Moe as Vice-Chair.
 - (JT) Continue recruiting for 2nd Alternate Commissioner, Commission Staff: Recorder and Historic District WG
- Cemetery Commission Liaison (MD):
 - Status of Shaker Burial Marker project: Hope to wrap up in the next few months.
 - Maintenance and next year’s Historic Walking Tours; Joint HHC/Cemetery meeting.
- Community Preservation Cmte Liaison (PM): No report
- Master Plan Steering Cmte Liaison (JT): Still no plan for RKG to deliver the draft Master Plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Administration: MGL Chap 40C Section10e, Bylaw Chap 48-7 para M requirement to “...keep a permanent record of its determinations.”
- Annual Report: due Jan 23.
- Correspondence from *School Committee*: Add Bromfield School Principal’s House to District?
- Education & Training: Commissioners’ Orientation One, 45 minutes on Tuesday Jan 13
- Conflict of Interest testing

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

9:50

EXECUTIVE SESSION (NOT SCHEDULED)

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: February 4, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

10:00

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Marston, Secretary