

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 the Hildreth House, 15 Elm Street, on June 1 2016 at 7PM.

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER

ATTENDANCE Pam Marston, Sherry Graham, David Vannicola, Moe Dancause, Daria Swanton application made for commission , in audience to observe.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (May 11, 2016) David makes motion to approve, Pam seconds, all approve.

PUBLIC HEARING: Joseph Schmidt, DBA Lions Club, New Bench by Bromfield Wall, Sherry makes motion for public hearing, David seconds, all in favor. Mr. Schmidt shows pictures of the area where "the bench" will be installed, in the wall just beside the Bromfield entrance. They want to remove 3 boulders, maybe have them moved in front of the powder house. They want to make the area handicap accessible, they are going to level out the ground, add pavers, shows pictures, then they will install a granite or stone bench, (shows a picture) he says it's very similar to the "Jesse" bench at the library. The bench will be 6 to 8 feet, and room to allow wheel chairs. The purpose is to allow handicap to watch Lacrosse games or anything on the Library Field.

Bromfield Trust has approved, he will be going to the Library Trustees, and the BOS 6/14 for approval, final he will give a courtesy to the Park and Rec since they are responsible for the wall. Moe asks who owns the bench, Mr. Schmidt says maybe the town. Moe is concerned for vandalism, who will fix. Mr. Schmidt will verify. Conversation about the benches in the common being able to be moved, the need for a more fix non-movable bench is necessary for safety. Pavers will be Caledonia granite pavers will be used for the walkway. Near the entrance to the "the bench" they will suggest spaces for handicap parking at the BOS meeting to prevent the entrance being blocked to wheelchair access by vehicles parking in the area. The area could be a memorial to Bill Hazel or could be a dedication for handicap viewers, it's still undecided. Lions are trying to keep it as eco-friendly as possible to not alter the landscape much to maintain the beauty of the area. Moe asks for other comments, None. Moe declares the public hearing closed, now to deliberate. Sherry makes a motion to approve plan as being within guidelines, David seconds, all in favor to approve the certificate.

NEW APPLICATIONS 100 Shaker Road Application to demolish old Buildings on Conservation Land made by Wendy Sisson from the Conservation Commission. Town hall was closed could not get application to before they closed to move in the new building. Moe feels it's not a substantial change since other buildings are falling down, due to public safety the building needs to be removed as soon as possible. The building in question is not habitable, it's not historical, was not built by Shakers, by taking them down it's not changing or altering the historic district, but the building is a major hazard. The other buildings around the house are falling, George Watkins is an abutter. Since this is conservation land, the public do hike through the area. Moe states the building is not historic and therefore not significant only the land is historical and therefore it is not a substantial change and should be deemed unsubstantial and taken down immediately. Gabe says certain steps need to be done to prepare the property for demolition. Pam makes motion that this is insubstantial change and that conservation commission can demolish the building, David seconds, all in favor.

CHAIR'S TIME: None Scheduled

Correspondence: Pam introduces Daria Swanton, she has made application to join commission, BOS to Vote on it next week. Pam is discussing the procedure how members are chosen. Pam says Katy Brown in Still River should come as someone who may be interested; she lives in an Antique house in Still River. Pam talking about how the Commission works, and how much time is involved in being on the Commission and how we have public hearings. Moe also explains other procedures, both give examples of different hearings and applications that have been before the commission.

ON-GOING BUSINESS :

TIME

7:02

7:05

7:15

7:40

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Discussion Relative to CPC Funding Requests – Moe suggests this gets tabled for now and discuss later about different projects. The Commission has until Sept. to make decision to allocate funds.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

- Historic House Marker Program (PM): Status

8:00

Other BUSINESS:

Review Design Guidelines.- Moe suggests this gets tabled for tonight because nothing was able to be prepared for meeting.

8:10

COMMISSIONERS' TIME: This is Moe's last meeting as he is rolling off and is unable to continue.

Pam becomes the new Chair, Moe explains the procedures.

(To exchange ideas, concerns, items of interest, and problems)

8:16

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: July 6, 2016

ADJOURNMENT Moe makes motion to adjourn, Pam seconds, all in favor.

8:40

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, Sherry Graham, Commissioner