

TOWN OF ORLEANS
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Wednesday, February 11 2009

Place: Orleans Town Hall

Present:

James Hadley, Chair
Richard Besciak
Carol Haeberli
Bonnie Snow
Ann Sinclair
Catherine Southworth

Absent:

Dennis Dowd

Trevor Kurz

Discussion:

- 1 There was discussion of a grant request from the Orleans Historical Society to be submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for work to be done on the CG 36500. The OHC supports this request and Mr. Hadley will write a letter of support, following the general outline suggested by Pete Kennedy, Orleans Historical Society board member in charge of the CG36500. Mr. Kennedy's suggestions were contained in an email to Mr. Hadley that was distributed to the Commission at the meeting. There was discussion of preservation restrictions which can accompany these types of grants. Mr. Hadley will talk to Pete Kennedy about this so he can find out the answer before he applies for the grant.
- 2 Ann Sinclair talked to the Commission about creating a local historic district. There was discussion of the differences between a National Register District and a local historic district. National Register Districts recognize that the area is important to the history of the community, but provide no protection against demolition or inappropriate changes to buildings within the district. National Register Districts are established by a majority vote of the property owners. Local historic districts review proposed changes to exterior architectural features visible from a public way. Local historic districts are established by a two-thirds vote of town meeting. In the past, there were vocal opponents of a historic district on Main Street. It was thought best to start the process by meeting with property owners to get a feeling of whether there is support for either kind of district at this time. Mr. Hadley will talk to Beverly Fuller and Ann will get additional booklets Establishing Local Historic Districts and information on NR Districts from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. He will get the existing files to Ms. Sinclair.
- 3 Trevor Kurz, 240 Brick Hill Road

Mr. Kurz returned to the Commission and told them he has decided not to tear down the house but instead to do small additions to the house and lift it and add a foundation. The Commission reviewed drawings. Kurz stated that he will use the same type moldings that already exist on the house on the new work. That level of detail was not shown on the plans. Bonnie Snow moved and Richard Besciak seconded a motion that there is no objection to the plans provided the level of detail carried out needs to match that of the existing building.
MOTION PASSED

Ann Sinclair

Acting Secretary

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TOWN OF ORLEANS
TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
ASST.