



TOWN OF ROXBURY CONNECTICUT

Historic District Commission

29 North Street • P.O. Box 203 • Roxbury, CT 06783-0203

ROXBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 17, 2018 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

Present: C. Haver, G. Miller, C. Raymond, W. Walker, K. Yovan; T. Martin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the 20 December meeting were accepted as submitted.

BUSINESS

Pre-hearing

The contractor hired by the owners of the Orlando Lewis Homestead had called W. Walker to discuss the enclosure of the front entrance. No one was present to outline the proposal, but W. Walker distributed to the HDC two photos of the entrance.

The HDC will wait to hear further.

Nathan Beardsley House

There is a large hole in the roof of one of the barn across from the house. W. Walker will call the owners to offer some assistance to protect the structure.

Sign at bank

C. Haver reported that a new sign has appeared at the Union Saving Bank branch in town. The sign did not go through the HDC approval process. W. Walker will speak to the branch manager.

Preservation Ordinance

T. Martin spoke to the letter that outlined the ordinance. She was concerned that the proposed commission set up by the ordinance would be able to oversee and comment on the maintenance of a historic house. T. Martin was alarmed by a letter sent to her from a resident who had misread the contents. W. Walker remarked that the intent was nothing of the sort but suggested that perhaps the letter did not emphasize the issue strongly enough. The HDC explained the motivation behind the proposed ordinance. Historic houses are susceptible to the danger of deliberate and malicious demolition by neglect for various reasons. It is this problem that the ordinance addresses. The HDC mentioned past and present incidences. The letters received were marginally more in favor of the ordinance, but those that were against cited the same reasons as T. Martin. There were some constructive suggestions, for example, a town fund that could receive tax-exempt donation to distribute to historic homeowners who have financial restraints to make necessary repairs. C. Haver mentioned tax incentives that were in place in California for historic house maintenance. C. Raymond suggested local tax rebates.

W. Walker will respond to each of the letters and the HDC discussed a follow-up letter to report on the responses and clear up any misconceptions.

Electric Car Terminal

B. Henry would like to install an electric car charging station. The station for one vehicle would measure 60" X 10". It would be installed on the edge of the town hall parking area adjacent to the firehouse. The HDC had no initial objections. G. Miller will report to B. Henry to submit an application.

Design Criteria

C. Haver presented the last of the revisions that were discussed at the last meeting. The members unanimously approved the final version. C. Haver will forward to J. Huber for reformatting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Georgette Miller

Georgette Miller, Clerk

The next meeting of the HDC is:

Wednesday 14 February 7:30 pm Roxbury Town Hall