

Local Historic District Committee Meeting

Minutes

September 12, 2012

Committee Members Present: Mary DeChillo, chair; Sylvia Belkin; Jer Jurma; Ed Moll; Dana Anderson.

Others in Attendance: Pete Kane, Town Planner; Mary Ellen Fletcher; Glen Kessler, Selectman

Meeting commenced at 7:05; Minutes of previous meeting accepted as written.

The discussion began with a discussion of the research phase of the project, which continues. It is estimated that from October through November the committee will continue with informational meetings. The draft report should be completed at the end of October. It will then be submitted to Mass Historical Commission where discussion and deliberation could take as long as five weeks, depending on their workload. We will then revise as necessary.

The final report is due the month of March. The proposed by-law (for the LHD) will then go into the warrant, following a public meeting for vote at town meeting in May.

There is a grace period between conclusion of town meeting and Attorney General's approval. The selectmen would usually hold off on appointing members of the Commission, if the article is approved by 2/3 vote of town meeting members at town meeting, until the AG's approval.

Discussion regarding members of the LHD committee attending a Farmers' Market meeting to get input from local residents on the topics raised in our questionnaire. Glen Kessler went upstairs to their meeting, and Kimberley Fillenworth (kfillen@yahoo.com) (781)775-3502 and Robert Chavez subsequently appeared at ours! After some discussion about the fact that the upcoming FM might be very busy because of the Chefs' Throwdown contest it was agreed that we could attend a FM the following week (September 23rd) and that we will have a place to sit and that one of our members will supply a banner identifying who we are. We will have maps to give out showing the proposed LHD, the questionnaire, an inventory of some of Swampscott's historic homes, and a book for enthusiastic citizens to sign up to spread the word, hold house informational parties, etc .

It was suggested that we send a letter explaining the reason for establishing a local historic district in Swampscott to homeowners in the Olmsted District.

Dana Anderson noted that we can't photograph every home in our proposed district so we agreed to do 45 homes in addition to those on Humphrey Street. It was also suggested that Richard Smith (Historical Commission, Humphrey Street Sub-Committee chair, has taken many photos of the area and Dana will call him.

Discussion regarding short talk on our progress that Mary DiChillo will give at town meeting.

Jer is working on public relations. He will talk to Katrina Powell and hasn't yet had an opportunity to talk with Terry Date.

Ed Moll presented a "flip book" of american home styles that will help the committee and assistants to identify architectural styles, based on Ed's knowledge and a book entitled "American House Styles" by John Milnes Baker.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Our next meeting to be held on September 26th at town hall in the regular meeting room.

Minutes submitted by Sylvia Belkin, Secretary