Local Historic District Committee Meeting Minutes June 13, 2012

Members Present: Mary DeChillo, Jer Jurma, Dana Anderson, Sylvia

Belkin Members Absent: Warren Sawyer

Town Liason Present: Pete Kane

Others in Attandance: Robert Strong, Planning Intern

Time: Meeting called to order at 7:13

Location: Town Hall 3rd floor conference room

Minutes approved.

Noted that a walking tour was done as part of last meeting.

Discussion regarding what constitutes a historic building.

Committee members want to determine what civic and institutional structures may be subject to incentives from state and federal government. When we look at Humphrey Street we see a mix of old and new commercial and residential structures. We need to identify and study these buildings.

Dana suggested that we might bundle Humphrey Street with the Olmsted district as a Local Historic District. Others pointed out that we might also include Blaney, Rockland, Greenwood, King, etc.

There was discussion about a standing public easement for a street that still exists legally but is no longer extant physically. It was called Cliffside, adjacent to Hawthorne by the Sea.

Discussion about how we define the scope (of an LHD) that is manageable to research and document and that will be accepted by Town Meeting. How much latitude do we have to write the rules? In 2009 the state recommended an "overlay village center." The underlying uses are defined by zoning. Can we suggest lighting? Trees? In the LHD? Can we get a Federal Grant to do this?

It was noted that we should be meeting with the ZBA and Planning Board from time to time.

Pete asked: What is this group's vision?

Dana: Could we do an article in the paper focusing on areas of the town then and now? It was noted that Laura Smith lives in the Olmsted District. Could she write pieces like this? For example, how did the County Streets develop?

Mary: We need to start developing a "vision statement" – what historical character and elements needs to be preserved. Who wants to take responsibility to write the vision of the Committees for the website?

Jer will write a press release in advance of Chris Skelley's coming on the 27th of June (Wednesday afternoon) to explain why he is coming and how he will help the LHDC to proceed.

Would Julie Brooks, owner of GaGa Gallery be considered for the Committee:

We will do a walking tour with Christ Skelley at 4 p.m. We'll meet at Town Hall, in the lobby, and Pete will make an outline for the tour. On that day we will have dinner at 6 p.m. at Mary's and adjourn for a meeting at town hall.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by

Sylvia Belkin