

**Local Historic District Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**July 11, 2012**

**Members Present:** Jer Jurma

Mary DeChillo

Sylvia Belkin

Dana Anderson

**Others in Attendance:** Pete Kane, Town Planner

Robert Strong, Intern

Susan Munafo, Chair, Historical Commission

Meeting called to order at 7:05

The Committee accepted the resignation of Warren Sawyer with regret. He noted that he would gladly serve on an ad hoc basis.

The Committee discussed Chris Skelley's (MHC) input at the previous meeting. Chris had said that he believes Humphrey Street is a very viable choice for a Local Historic District. It was also noted that the Olmsted District should be protected as a LHD because of its stature on the Historic Register. Chris Skelley had also pointed out that a number of houses that he believed to be worthy of protection.

Susan remarked that the Mass Preservation Plan had noted that LHD protection is the most critical.

Regarding discussion on how we get the word out. Pete suggested that we reach out to people at the train station. The same for the Fish House. Mary suggested that we have a series on our web site talking about what we are doing now and what we hope to accomplish. Also, that we have a report at Town Meeting in October. That we identify buildings in Swampscott of a historic nature and those that were torn down because we had no oversight to present demolition.

Are there studies that show how real estate values are affected by preservation? Our goal is to education town meeting members. We need to contact other communities that have done this successfully.

Jer Jurma, our press contact, will have a conversation with Katrina Powell, the new columnist/Editor of the Reporter and Laura Smith.

We talked about having group meetings at individual homes, inviting people and then having explanation of LHD and inviting opinions and conversation. We should stress that "we are inviting you to join in the process."

Mary said that she feel the LHD should not be seen as a part of the Historical Commission and that we should think about boundaries.

Dana noted that we're focusing on the character of Swampscott -- not Capt'n Jacks. We need to explain what a LHD is. Pete noted that we have a Town Survey initiated by the Planning Board and that we should use it! We need to talk about Olmsted, for example.

Can each committee member take on a portion of the above-noted responsibilities? Sylvia will take on the Opinion Survey. Jur will do Marketing -- parties, a banner. Dana will start the Property Inventory and he will also do a power point presentation at Town Meeting to explain what it means to have a Historic District.

Boundaries of the Local Historic District were brought up. Right now we're starting with Humphrey Street and the Olmsted District. Comment made: "We don't want people to feel their homes are being dismissed!"

Before concluding the meeting at 8:40, it was announced that Ed Moll has been appointed to the LHD committee.

Minutes submitted by Sylvia Belkin, Secretary.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvia Belkin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.