

Historic District Commission
October 17, 2013

HDC members present: Gretchen Schuler (presiding), Margery Baston, Alice Boelter, Chris Hagger (arrived 8 pm), Kevin Crowley, Kathie Steinberg

Others present: Lea Anderson, Susan and Brad Keyes

(1) Public Comment - there was none.

(2) Minutes of September 26, 2013 were accepted with the addition of the word "wide" to 10 foot (wide) paths on the first page. (5-0-0)

Alice said kudos were due to those working on 5 Century House Tour and to those sharing their homes.

(3) First Parish Church, 225 Boston Post Road - Requested changes related to addition. Susan Keyes spoke to the application. She spoke of the handicap ramp first (on the east side of the building). Originally the First Parish had hoped for brass railings but had gone to steel -- and they now would like to have them painted black. They were coming before the HDC for a change of color to the handicap railing. Kevin made a motion that the HDC accept the change of color to black This was seconded by Margery. The motion received a unanimous, favorable vote. (5-0-0)

b) Locations of lighting on carriage sheds

Susan spoke next of the placement of lighting over the carriage sheds. She distributed a 5-page report that included a description of the lighting and showed the original locations (all 5 lights clustered to the south side of carriage sheds) and the proposed locations (which would almost evenly distribute the lights across the carriage sheds). The spread of the light is minimal partly because they are placed at a height of 8 feet. They will go off on a timer at 10 pm. Kevin made a motion for the change of location for the 5 lights on the carriage house; this was seconded by Kathie. The motion received a unanimous, favorable vote. (5-0-0)

Susan Keyes mentioned that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony, on Oct. 27, at 11:15 am, at the east entrance by the carriage sheds. She will offer a tour to those who attend.

(4) Sign, Lighting, Hardscape Design Guidelines. This will be covered at a later date.

(5) Other

There was discussion of the proliferation of sandwich boards and signs that have popped up in the Town Center and elsewhere. Gretchen may speak or write to the Selectmen about a policy that used to be enforced that kept temporary signs to the southeast corner of Route 20 & 27/126. The electronic sign on PSB is to be used for emergency issues.

The next meeting will be on November 21. However, if there is no application, we may not have to meet.

Alice spoke of the Town Design Guidelines (which can be found on the Design Review pages on Town website). She made that point that the HDC guidelines should be on top of those guidelines. An applicant should not be forced to appear before both the Design Review Board and the HDC.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully, submitted,
Margery Baston