

Wayland Historic District Commission
November 21, 2013

HDC members present: Gretchen Schuler (presiding), Margery Baston, Kevin Crowley, George Ives, Kathie Steinberg, Meghan Winokur

Other present: Frank Gorke

(1) Public comment - there were none.

(2) Minutes of October 17, 2013 meeting were approved (6-0-0)

(3) 9 Bow Road - minor change to Certificate - color of front door due to warranty recommendation from black to dark red. Frank Gorke explained that there had been water damage to the front door and at the previous HD hearing the Commission had approved a new door in a black color. However, the contractor who put the door in place a month ago advised against a black door (because of the light and heat trapped between the glass storm door and the front door). The warranty recommendation for the door also advised against painting the door black. Frank Gorke has chosen a historic Benjamin Moore dark red color. George Ives made a motion to approve the new color. This received a unanimous, favorable vote. (6-0-0) George also made a motion that this be considered a diminutive change. This motion too received a unanimous, favorable vote. (6-0-0)

(4) Rail Trail and railroad Interpretive Plan Discussion. The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has filed to do a rail trail through Wayland (from Waltham to Berlin). The town will have \$250,000 from Twenty Wayland (when the New Town Center is 50% built) for a rail trail between Russell's Garden Center and the Wayland Depot; and the CPC has appropriated \$25,000. There is also a company called Iron Horse that will put down a stone dust trail from Russell's to Plain Road for free, if it can keep the rails. Gretchen said a big question concerns saving the rails that are immediately next to the Depot and to save a piece of the side track by the Freight House. There was also discussion of the 3 proposed routes that the rail trail could take as it passed next to the Depot (and through the Historic District). Parking is limited in the HD and the Depot parking lot is often full (about 25 cars -- and most are for the nearby businesses).

Kevin suggested greater use of the area to the east of the Freight House for parking (for those using the bike trail). He wondered if Iron Horse could put down some stone dust in that area for additional parking.

There will need to be a hearing on what happens to the Depot (and Freight House) areas, as they are in the Historic District.

(5) Review of Design Review Committee Guidelines vis a vis Historic District Guidelines The question is: Should the HD guidelines be included in the Design Review Guidelines? Kevin suggested that we could have "Historic District additional requirements". Kathie suggested that at the end of each section there be reference to the HD. ("See HD additional requirements.") George thought we should state that the HD requirements supersede the Design Review Guidelines. Gretchen pointed out that we will leave the existing HD window policy as it is. At one point there was review of the additions suggested by Alice Boelter (highlighted in yellow) on page 3 under Signage (of Design Review Guidelines). A page showing these suggestions was distributed. Under item #9 reads: "Exposed neon signs are discouraged..." In the HD neon signs are not allowed. Gretchen will speak to Sarki or someone about adding to the Design Review Guidelines - and then there will need to be a HD hearing.

It was pointed out that there are only 4 businesses in the HD. The HD is primarily residential. George thought for that reason we may want to have a document separate from the Design Review Guidelines.

(6) Proposed LED street lighting. NStar has 4 LED fixtures on two poles across the street on Concord Road from the Wayland library. There are two different intensities. Right under the light, it is directed and bright -- but the light does not spill out very much. The Energy Committee from Wayland (Energy Initiative) members are: Annie Harrison and Tom Sciacca, Ellen Tohn (she would like to meet with the HDC). Cochituate has some LED lighting at .6 or .7 intensity. Across from the library the intensity is .3; and that seemed to be okay in the HD. However, the fixture will make a difference. The lights are very innocuous. Gretchen said that NStar has come a long way.

There will possibly not be a December HDC meeting -- unless there is a need for a hearing.

The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margery Baston