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Minutes of the December 6, 2001 Advertised Meeting of the Wellfleet Historical Review Board called to order at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room

Present from the Board: Richard Robicheau, Helen Purcell. Also present: the petitioners for the Public Meeting, Eleanor Stefani and Robert Hankey; agent for the owner of the cottage under discussion, Jerry Parent; Town Building Inspector Richard Azman; other interested citizens.

Minutes of the November meeting were accepted as read and printed.

The Board read and reviewed the request of Justina Carlson through her agent Chris Thompson to move the house on Baker Avenue, (Map 14, Lot 187, formerly the Dow and Dorothy Baker house) to higher ground on the same lot. Members of the Board had visited the site and studied the plan forwarded earlier by the Building Inspector, Richard Azman, so the members were ready to vote. The house is well over the 75 years old and its French Second Empire style also qualifies the house for careful consideration by the Board. The house was previously owned by Dow and Dorothy Baker, members of the prominent Baker founders of the Boston Fruit Company which merged with the United Fruit Company. The Board believes that the house may be moved without harm to its historic and architectural merit if the owners move it to another spot on its site and move it according to the submitted plans. The Board voted to permit the owner to move the house and to notify the owner or her agent immediately. Richard Robicheau agreed to hand deliver the Board's letter to Chris Thompson, the Carlson builder and agent.

The request by Edith Harris, through her agent, to be granted permission to demolish her house (Map 19, lot 72 ) at 60 Way 55 was next on the agenda. All letters to the Board on this subject were read aloud or were made available to be read by interested parties. The letters supported the architectural importance of The Colony of which the subject cottage was one of the ten built in the late 40's. Jerry Parent, agent for the Harris family, summarized the history of the cottage colony and the relationship of the "tenth cottage" to the original building plan and to the present owners of both The Colony and the "tenth cottage." Then he presented a statement by Mrs. Harris's lawyer of reasons why the Historical Review Board should not vote to impose a delay of the proposed demolition. Copies of that statement were made available to the petitioners. Mr. Parent added that the issue might be avoided altogether if both parties could agree to the compromise of moving "the tenth cottage" to a nearby lot which would open the existing lot to the new building that Mrs. Harris and her family wish to build there.

Since the Board members had not had the opportunity to read the lawyer's position paper and his supporting arguments before the meeting, the Board voted to postpone voting on the issue of the permit until its next meeting on December 20.

The Board agreed that it would no longer have to continue to ask the Selectmen to appoint a third member to the Board because Sibel Asantugrul has agreed to serve on the Historical Review Board as soon as the Selectmen have acted on her appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

*Helen G. Purcell*