West Boylston Historical Commission 65 Worcester Street West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583 Meeting Minutes November 14, 2013

Commissioners present: Beverly Goodale, Barbara Deschenes, Neil Norum, Nancy Barakian and Dennis Parker.

Commissioners absent: Kim Hopewell and Gregory Zakarian.

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m. at the Historical Society building, 65 Worcester St., West Boylston

Meeting Minutes

Upon motion of Neil with a second by Dennis, the minutes of June 20, 2013 were approved as written.

Chairman's report

Library: Everyone is still waiting for the library to be accepted. Anne Forbes' mother passed away recently and it seems as though this project is "in limbo". Bev is hesitant about seeking another person to do the project

The Nash house, located at 66 Keyes St., Oakdale has been razed; the barn is being renovated and hopefully restored with the anticipated use for storage for A.A. Beardsley, Inc. who purchased the property with his uncle.

The Cavanaugh house at 114 Worcester St is slated to be razed and a Cumberland Farms convenience store/gas station is currently seeking permits to be built on that site.

CPC: Commissioners reviewed the historical portion of CPC regulations; comments were made and upon motion of Neil, second by Nancy, it was unanimously voted to approve the criteria pertaining to historical buildings, artifacts, etc.

Masonic Temple/CPC: It was agreed that the preservation restriction should be on the windows only and not on the entire building. Commissioners also agreed that the attorney for the Masons was "dragging his feet" on moving forward; it's been 1 ½ years.

It was noted that we recommended passage of the article at town meeting based solely on the source of the windows – namely they were originally in the Old Stone Church and therefore should be preserved.

Route 12 beautification: According to the Banner article the discussion at that meeting was on the business area from the junction of routes 12 and 140 south to the Worcester line. From that section discussion went directly to The Old Stone Church area, totally neglecting the common, historic district, Bigelow Tavern, Bobby Dunn's renovations of his service station and what he did to the former Daby house.

Evidently it was suggested that signs be erected to tell what was there before the reservoir. Commissioners questioned how that would work with moving vehicles, etc.

Barbara mentioned that there are no street lights on Rt. 12 and no sidewalks; it's not pedestrian friendly.

Cemetery project: we should move forward on that next year.

The next meeting will be at 4:00 on January 2, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara M. Deschenes

