

HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

13 AYER ROAD • HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01451



The Harvard Historical Commission is chartered "...to preserve and protect the historic assets of Harvard, its buildings, structures, places, sites, and surrounding settings of historical or architectural significance."

Those wishing to record any or all of the meeting must, prior to the meeting's start, alert the chair to such and the chair will announce the fact, in accordance with The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Following are the minutes for a special meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission at Hildreth House on June 20, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Submitted by George Triantaris, Secretary.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Pam Marston (Chair)
David Vannicola (Vice-Chair)
George Triantaris (Secretary)
Daria Swanton
Emanuel Lindo
Steve Nizus
Aron Clarke

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA: None

MEMBERS OF School Building Committee: Linda Dwight, Josh Myler, Ron Ostberg, SusanMary Redinger etc.

AUDIENCE: Corey Dufresne, Marty Green, Pat Jennings Ken Swanton, Lucy Wallace, Alice Von Loescke, others

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER:

7:02

Pam announced that meeting would be recorded

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Minutes of June 6, 2018 meeting approved unanimously

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve new chair as of June 20, 2018: Pam Marston unanimously elected to begin term as chair beginning June 20
2. Elect a liaison to the SBC: Steve Nizus unanimously elected as liaison to SBC effective immediately
3. Approve new secretary as of June 20, 2018: George Triantaris unanimously elected as secretary beginning June 20
4. School Building Committee Presentation to discuss the exterior materials, window shapes and sizes as well as other aspects of the design.

Linda Dwight opened the conversation by stating that she was happy for the opportunity to collaborate with the HHC and would share the latest architects' renderings which were to be presented to the SBC on the following day.

Ron shared that the SBC desired to work with HHC and recognized that HHC was charged with protecting the historic look and feel of the town center and the districts. He cited prior studies and reports that had been conducted on the importance of the character of the historic districts and areas in Harvard. Shared that the SBC was very mindful of the size of the building (80,000 sq. feet) and their objective was to break down the mass as much as possible to minimize the visual impact. Considered 3 floors to cut down on the footprint (too tall). Cited the library addition as a successful addition in an historic area. Talked about traffic flow for drop off and pick up. Architects looked at historic buildings in town for materials, window size and treatment, porches and roof size and pitch and tried to design a building (albeit very large) that would be compatible with Harvard's existing civic and private structures. Talked about the foundation (granite), roof line to conceal the air handlers, glass connecting element, and the porches. Mentioned the masonry (combination of brick and simulated stone), size of windows vs floor area, style of windows being considered (currently with dividers).

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Meetings with architect and SBC happening every 2 weeks with subsequent updates. Currently in design phase and then will go to construction documents. SBC plans to continue to communicate with HHC regarding the progress of the design.

Several commissioners expressed an interest in seeing what the structure would look like if the exterior were all brick. SBC feels this will increase the size impact. Samples of materials will be supplied at a later time. There was a discussion about using masonry details and window treatments to “break up” the visual impact of the structure and make it more interesting. The goal is for this to be a 50 year building.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Discussion centered on issues covered above with regard to the color of the stone, shape of the windows and the roof and dormer treatment. There was further discussion about the traffic flow and impact on the historic district in general and Fairbank Street in particular and the suggestion that concrete plans to prevent flow onto Fairbank be considered before the building is constructed. There was further discussion about the potential for screens attached to the porches as an element of interest and what those might look like. There was also conversation about the potential impact of noise and construction dust on the historic district. Ron thanked HHC and public for comments which he would convey back to architects.

EXECUTIVE SESSION None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: June 27, 2018 Town Hall 7:00 pm or Bromfield Library TBD

MEETING ADJOURNED:

8:55