

# 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 of the public hearing and meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission held in the Bromfield Library, on September 5, 2018. Submitted by George Triantaris, Secretary

## **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Pam Marston (Chair)  
David Vannicola (Vice Chair)  
George Triantaris (Secretary)  
Steve Nigzus  
Emanuel Lindo  
Aron Clarke

**AUDIENCE:** Applicants listed below and others as noted

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

**7:00**

Pam announced that the meeting would be recorded

## **TOPICS:**

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** Minutes of August 8 meeting unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Public hearing opened at 7:02 and closed at 7:30 by unanimous vote

Linda Dwight, School Superintendent, and Ron Ostberg for new elementary school construction application. Ron reviewed and summarized the plans for the new elementary school – covering topics and utilizing diagrams used in prior presentations to the HHC (see minutes). Topics covered included a review of the selection of the building site on the property where the school will be constructed. The scale of the building and attempts to minimize its visual impact were also discussed as was the roof line, the porches, the bays and building materials, all designed with the goal of being harmonious with existing buildings in Harvard and the look and feel of key buildings. The driveway and parking have been moved from the front of the property so that a "field" without cars will be visible from Massachusetts Avenue.

Pam objected to the use of mixed materials on the façade and favors all brick rather than a mixture of brick and stone. George, Manny, Steve and David preferred the mixed materials. Final decisions as to the exact color of the brick and stone have not been made and some of the areas shown in stone may, in the end, be clad with brick. Pam had asked to see a rendering of the structure in all brick which the architect has not produced. Ron and Liz repeated that a mock-up would be provided before final decisions are made.

The conversation was opened to the public at this point. John Dailey said that he liked the overall design. He asked about plans for walls and exterior landscaping features. These have not yet been decided. He asked if the architects had considered constructing one of the buildings using brick and one with stone. They had considered this but decided it was more desirable to have one visibly integrated structure rather than two. He asked about details of the stone lintels. These have not been finalized. He asked about the structure in relation to houses on Fairbanks. This was considered but a building of this size is needed.

The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the application as submitted with the agreement that input would be sought from the HHC on exterior details as they evolved, consistent with the discussion in the August 8 meeting and the



June 27 agreement. Manny abstained as he was not present for the August 8 meeting.

**NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED:** Non-applicability Carl Sciple, new barn roof under solar panels ~ this was revoked ~ see new applications below.

**NEW APPLICATIONS:** Carl Sciple submitted an application to add a deck on the back of his house at 23 Fairbank Street. After some discussion as to the exact design of the deck, the materials that would be used to construct it and how it would look in the context of the historic house, the commissioners voted unanimously to treat this as a substantial change requiring a public hearing (Aron abstained as he is an abutter and Steve had departed). Homeowner was asked to return with drawings that would show how the deck would appear in context and with photographs of the materials he proposes to use.

Homeowner stated that the shingles to be replaced on the barn in connection with the solar project (see above) would be a different color than what is currently used and would be not only under the solar panels but would cover the entire side of the barn roof. This was determined to be a substantial change by unanimous vote and will be added to the application to be considered next month.

**ON-GOING APPLICATIONS:** (None)

**NEW BUSINESS:** Open meeting law workshop in November and discussion. Commissioners encouraged to attend

**ON-GOING BUSINESS:**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Mass DOT regarding paving of Rte. 2 along Harvard border ~ inquiry regarding historic structures or features that might be impacted Pam to check to see if the Shaker Spring is close enough to be of concern
2. Planning board regarding addressing Master Plan topics assigned to HHC ~ review of Harvard Master Plan for HHC from 2016. Pam to connect with Historic Society to determine if they might want to coordinate on a historical and cultural resources survey (Joe Theriault began one some time ago). George will review material from demolition delay workshop and draft a summary to be discussed at next meeting. Pam to speak with HS to determine if they might wish to collaborate or take the lead on seeking National Register of Historic Places status for Still River Village. Manny to explore possible staff support for HHC.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:**

- Monument Committee** (DV) Work on flagpole continues
- CPC** (PM) Application sent Aug 15 to CPC to finish Bromfield wall
- Cemetery Commission**
- Demolition Delay Committee** (GT, PM) refer to Master Plan topic above

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Corey Defresne reviewed draft changes to the HHC by-laws written to make them consistent with the town charter. These changes were insubstantial and will be distributed to HHC commissioners for review and a vote at the next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** None

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:** October 3, 2018

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 8:33

**DOCUMENTS:** Applications, Master Plan