

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 alert the chair prior to the start of the meeting and the chair will make an announcement, in accordance with The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Following is the Minutes for public hearings and a regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission to be held via Zoom on, Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Access information for members of the public:

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

George Triantaris (Chair)
Pam Marston (Vice Chair)
Richard Cabelus (Secretary) (joined 7:08)
Steve Nigzus
Emanuel Lindo
Seth Trotz

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA: Matthew McRae

AUDIENCE: Erik Hammar, Fay Martin, Marty Green, Paul Green, Jennifer Manell, Davida Bagatelle, Stacie Cassat Green.

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: At 7:25 pm the HHC Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Resumption of Public Hearing:

ONGOING APPLICATIONS:

NEW APPLICATIONS:

1. 4 Pond Road - Library: Marty Green for the Trustess of the Harvard Public Library, Library Pavilion Project

At 7:15 the Chair turned to this application. The Chair indicated the job tonight was to decide if this was a substantial or insubstantial change. The Chair indicated that this is a public space and a new structure so this is a substantial change. Steve motioned it is a substantial change. Seth seconded. HHC Commissioners voted it was a



substantial change unanimously. Marty Green of the Trustees then began to update Commissioners on the application. Marty shared her screen and reviewed the application. She went over the size and location of the pavilion. She pointed out a storage closet in the back of the structure and metal brooze trim to support the structure, as well as gray granite pavers. Ms. Green indicated she was seeking the structure to be in harmony with the Library. Metal roofing, possibly cooper if it can be budgeted is what the material would be. The Chair then indicated it would be helpful to have a site visit between now and the public hearing. It also would be helpful to demonstrate the highest point of the roof and the visual impact on the surrounding area. Ms. Green also indicated she could stake out the parameter of the structure on the ground to better understand the size and shape. The Chair indicated that would be extremely helpful.

Seth asked about the proximity of the structure to a large stone nearby and if the pavilion is on grade would there be any issues. Ms. Green indicated that was discussed with the architect and there were no issues. Richard asked that samples be made available for inspection. The Chair then asked should we have an organized site visit. Pam said that would be a good idea with Marty and the architect. The Chair indicated a site vite organized and to see it on your own if a commissioner could not make it would work best. That was left to be coordinated after the meeting between the Chair and the applicant.

2. 5 Fairbank Street: Erik Hammar, Precision Roofing, for Fay Martin, Roof Work

At 7:05 the Chair moved to this application. Mr. Hammar presented the application. The applicant is seeking to replace the current roofing that is asphalt on the porch of the structure. Ms. Martin wants aluminum metal roofing of the same color. Mr. Hammar indicated a little siding will be removed. Siding will be preserved as much as possible. This is a change of materials from asphalt to metal. The HHC had to deliberate as to whether this was a substantial or insubstantial change. Seth asked about the new roofing system and the roof lining being vertical rather than horizontal. Mr. Hammar said that is correct. The rib will be vertical. Approxmatelty 16 inch paneling will be installed. The Applicant made clear it is only the porch roofing. Pam and Manny thought the change in material makes it substantial. Pam moved that the change was substantial. Manny seconded. Vote: Seth: yes. Manny: yes. Richard: yes. Pam: yes. George and Steve abstained as abbutters. A Public hearing will be at next hearing.

NON-APPLICABLE APPLICATIONS:

1. 8 Ayer Road: TAG Chimney for Tracey Dechery, chimney maintenance project

The Chair started the meeting with this application. Steve shared his screen and brought the application up. The Chiar went over the application. There are 2 chimneys on the house and this is a replacement of a chimney cap. The existing bricks will be reused and repointed and a few bricks may be replaced in kind. The Chair said he is comfortable this in non-applicable. A motion was made to approve the application by Steve. Seconded by Manny. Approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chair's updates, procedural items, and project progress report review - GT

The Chair talked about the climate initiative committe and how the HHC is very supportive of solar panels. The Chair indicated that historically the HHC has been very supportive of solar, and the the majority of applications for



solar have been approved as is. One solar application was modified slightly but approved. The Chair indicated that the Climate Committee Chair Ellen Sachs Leicher and he also talked about having a solar farm that could possibly serve the district. The Chair indicated that it was a very productive and amicable conversation. Pam indicated Earth Day was April 22 where a lot of these issues will be discussed. Seth brought up replacement of windows is one of the best ways HHC can promote the environment and preservation and the commission could have appropriate resources as to how you can maintain windows and be energy conscious. Richard also interjected as to how there are already overlay districts for solar in the Town, one on Depot Rd. and one on Ayer Rd. Seth indicated there was a story in the paper as to how there was interest in development of solar farm on depot road. The Chair asked Seth to get information on this and maybe we could post on the website as a good resource.

2. Commissioner Terms and anticipated Vacancies

The Chair indicated Manny was leaving at the end of his term. Matt is leaving as well. There is a person in the Shaker District interested in joining. The Chair is also reaching out to an architect to see if they would join. They have been speaking. The Chair hopes that after the turnover he hopes we can turn back to some outstanding projects we have not had time to complete.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

1. Ongoing discussion of potential changes to application procedures and rules and regulations

The Chair indicated that the rules and regulation have already been amended. However, there will be a public hearing about the exemptions at the next hearing. The Chair waited until another notice had to go out to the whole district to have this hearing as well. Since the Library hearing has to go to the whole district the proposed exemptions hearing will go out with the same notice to save money on mailing. The Commission's budget was depleted and it could save money this way.

The Chair talked about minor changes to the Application Form and wanted the Commission to approve. Steve made a motion to amend the Application for Certificate of Appropriateness, Pam seconded. HHC voted unanimously to make minor changes to the Application form per the Chair's request.

2. Bromfield House - addition of Bromfield House to Harvard Common Historic District

The Chair indicated this is all done. The Attorney General approved. The new map just needs to be recorded. He thanked everyone for their help on this.

The Chair at 7:40 pm talked about a violation he saw in the district and asked Commissioners what action, if any, the HHC may want to take. This would be brought up at a later meeting.

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3. Project currently on hold:
Demolition Delay (GT)

The Chair indicated he is eager to get demolition delay back on the active track.

Town Center Lighting and power lines (GT)

Harvard Narrative History – historical surveys 1993 and 1994 (GT)

Certificates of Appropriates – Upload historical records on website (GT)

At 7:45 the Chair also indicated it should be a priority to get approved certificates online.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

Monument Committee (MM)

CPC (PM)

Pam said CPC is on hold for Town Meeting.

Transportation Advisory Committee (PM)

Nothing to report.

Planning Board (RC)

Nothing to report.

Design Review Board (SN)

nothing to report.

Devens Committee (RC)

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

MEETING ADJOURNED: The Chair thanked everyone for all they do. Steve made a Motion to adjourn Pam seconded. The HHC voted Unanimously to adjourn. at 7:58 pm

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