

HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

13 AYER ROAD • HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01451



Following are the minutes for the regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission at the Hildreth House, 15 Elm Street, on December 2, 2015 at 7PM.

TOPICS:

TIME

CALL TO ORDER

7:04

ATTENDANCE Joe Theriault, Moe Dancause, Pam Marston, Rick Veltri, Scott Roy, Wendy Cot-Magan, David Vanicolla
Absent members: Sherry Graham and Wendy Eldredge

Audience: Peter Warren, Bruce Dolimont, Hank Fitek, Bruce Nickerson from Affordable Housing Trust

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING The minutes were approved as read.

7:05

NEW APPLICATIONS: 13 Fairbank Street, Cyrus Whitney House; repair/replace fieldstone retaining wall. This is considered an insubstantial change. It will not change the look of the wall which is crumbling. The application is nonapplicable. No vote is needed.

CPC PROJECT ENDORSEMENTS: None

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 13 Mass Ave, Harvard Methodist Meeting House, Andy and Robin Hu; (continuation of public hearing)
The discussion of the porch and its condition continued from the last meeting. A hardship condition for the porch floor was discussed because of the proximity of the road and salt and sand used during the winter. If it is a hardship we will allow a composite material as replacement flooring.
A motion was made for a hardship. 3 voted yes, 2 voted no (Joe, Wendy). We agreed the application is appropriate. The Hus chose a composite board of grey color and a grey color for the porch lattice underneath. The vote for the color was unanimously in favor.
- 74 Shaker Road, Carpenter Shop, Marc Sevigny; construct electricity meter shelter. (Mail: Feist)
Mark wants to cover an electric meter with some sort of housing that is parallel to the road. Right now the large meter is at an angle to the street and appears awkward. A motion was made that the application is appropriate. Unanimous vote in favor.

CHAIR'S TIME: Lessons-Learned Time: Review Criteria for Determination of each Application

Correspondence: COA Board of Directors Oct 25, 2015

The warrant article, from HHC, proposing to enlarge the historic district to include Hildreth House and Bromfield House received negative reviews from COA. HHC will write up an article, showing the selectmen our reasoning for enlarging the district and hopefully go to Town Meeting for a vote.

ON-GOING BUSINESS :

- Status of Applications: See Applications Status List (RV)
- Status of Action Items: See Action Item List (MD). Review Tabled items.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

- Administration Working Group (JT):
 - P&P Review/Approve: For December, please review para 3.2.4 pps 12-13
 - Status: Warrant articles to protect Bromfield and Hildreth Houses:
- Communications WG (JT): Status. Scott Roy coming on as Author for the website
- Community Preservation Cmte Liaison (PM) : Status; no action for our proposed projects. The CPC will be funding \$300,000 for the Town Hall to pay down the debt service on the construction.
- Cemetery Comm Liaison (MD): Status. Report to Cemetery Comm on C PC Project?
- Education & Training WG (WE): Workshop on New England Architecture; Dec 18? Not discussed.
- Historic Districts WG:
 - Review of the HHC Design Guidelines, For December, please review pps 9-10 and 'Certificate Process', pps 11-12.
 - Progress on Hildreth and Bromfield House annexation to Historic District . Public Hearing @ Feb mtg.
- Historic Properties WG: Status
 - Local Register of Historic Places Program (JT): Status. Photography phase in progress.
 - Historic House Marker Program (PM): Status. Plaques to date number 26.

HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

13 AYER ROAD • HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01451



- Master Plan Steering Cmte Liaison (JT) : Status: Devens Conference was a success. 75 in attendance. Reported as most detailed presentation on the Devens issue.
- Membership Cmte (MD): Welcome Wendy Cote-Magan; We are 100% staffed!

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONERS' TIME: None

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Peter Warren and Bruce Dolimont both expressed concerns with adding Hildreth House and Bromfield House to the district. They voiced opinions that having HHC involved in any construction projects caused the cost to go higher because of demands HHC might make on the design.

Bruce Nickerson, representing AHT, was here concerned also about changing the status of Hildreth House. AHT will put out an RFP for a friendly 40 B for housing in back of Hildreth House. COA feels that HHC could present an issue with costs and bids for any construction behind Hildreth House. After listening to Bruce explain the negatives about enlarging the district to include Hildreth House, the commissioners voted to remove it from the warrant article. Bruce was very compelling in his argument.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (NOT SCHEDULED)

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: January 6, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned 9:35

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Marston, Secretary