

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."

Following are the minutes for the regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission at Town Hall, in the large meeting room, on June 6, 2018 at 7:00pm.

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER:

7:02

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

George Triantaris
Daria Swanton
Aron Clarke
Pam Marston (Secretary)

Emanuel Lindo
Ben Guthro (Chair)
David Vannicola (Vice-Chair)
Steve Nigzus

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA: none

NOTE: Chair, Ben Guthro, announced that the entire meeting was being recorded by the cable commission and Corey Dufresne.

APPLICANTS:

1. OLAC members: Lucy Wallace, Ken Swanton, Wendy Cote-Megan
2. Resident Aron Clarke

AUDIENCE: Corey Dufresne, Jennifer Finch, Marty Green, Debbie Hinchliffe, Josh Myler (HES principal), unknown

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: A motion was made to amend the May minutes as per George's explanation. Vote to amend was unanimous. Vote to accept amended minutes was unanimous.

ON-GOING APPLICATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. OLAC Accessibility: Ken and Wendy Cote-Megan were there to present the Old Library application and discuss what changes are proposed. Lamp choices were shown, the new front door was described, the restoration of the old tiles in the front foyer was highlighted. The existing front door (at the side) would be eliminated and made into a window. Existing benches will be used in different places at the site. Front steps will be granite with grey granite color. David noted that the ramp is very modern looking. The committee explained how they looked at everything over the period of time and how they decided on the modern ramp design. Ben, Steve, George, Daria and Aron voted yes to the design. (Pam had to step out of the room during the vote.) Manny and David voted no.
2. Aron Clarke (Fairbank St) Aron described the changes he proposes to make to his house by showing pictures of the various alterations. Three windows will be changed/moved and two doors will be replaced with new ones. He is adding a portico on to the side entrance that is designed to be compatible with the style of the house. The large bay window will be replaced with a flat window. Ben amended the application to delete the round window Aron was thinking about. The vote was unanimous for the application. A Certificate of Appropriateness will be sent to Aron, the town clerk and the building commissioner.

NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED: none

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ON-GOING BUSINESS:

1. Bromfield wall rebuild (EL) Wall is almost complete. Just the cap is not there. Plan is for a "photo op" with Marie, Sebastian Campos, contractor, Manny and Pam June 14 at the wall to celebrate the completion of this portion.
2. Warrant Article Review (GT) George reported on contact with Ken Swanton (Liaison to BoS) about the process for filing a

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warrant request with regard to HHC's recommendation for revision to existing Harvard Common District plan to be voted on at town meeting. Ken asked HHC to send recommended language to the BoS. BoS and town council would put it in the necessary format for a warrant article under new rules. Two options for revision to the Plan of Harvard Common Historic District were reviewed by the commissioners who voted unanimously to send the language to the BoS as drafted. Recommendation is below.

NOTE:

Recommended Revision to Plan of Harvard Common Historic District

The Harvard Historical Commission recommends that the "Harvard Historical Commission Plan of Harvard Common Historic District Revision D March 2015" recorded at {insert book and page reference} be amended and replaced by a new "Harvard Historical Commission Plan of Harvard Common Historic District Revision E October 2018."

Version #1

Note on left side of current plan, "(School buildings excluded)", to be replaced with a new note as follows "(School buildings constructed on lot identified on said plan as lot 17 (21 AcC) excluded)".

Version #2

Note on left side of current plan, "(School buildings excluded)", to be replaced with "(School buildings constructed on lots identified on said plan as lot 17 (21 AcC) and lot 42 (6.5 AcC) excluded)".

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Officer Elections Nominations: Pam Marston Chair, unanimous vote. David Vannicola Vice chair, unanimous vote, George Triantaris secretary, unanimous vote.
2. Annual Appointments (take effect July 2018) David's term is up. He will let the commission know about continuing. Manny thinks his term is not up and will check on the date.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Jessica Finnegan: a potential volunteer but scheduling conflicts mandate that she cannot attend Wednesday meetings at this time.
2. Linda Dwight (SBC) – The superintendent is reaching out to work with the commission on design concerns for the new school. It was discussed that there is no application before HHC hence no vote to approve/endorse as of yet. No building permit will be issued until the district map is clarified as per the building commissioner. It was suggested that HHC and the school building group have meetings. A liaison will be chosen from HHC to facilitate those meetings.
3. Liz Allard (ZBA) - 5 Littleton Road -An addition to the side of the house is being planned. There is no application as of yet because designs are not complete. Owners are going to ZBA for approval of the plan which will make the property no more non-conforming than it already is.
4. Letter to Attorney General: Tim Bragan helped Pam craft a response letter to the AG's office regarding an Open Meeting Law complaint filed by Deborah Hinchliffe citing Nate Finch and HHC. At the commission's May meeting, Nate recorded the entire meeting without notifying the chair or the commission that he was doing so. This is a violation of the OML. Steve, George, Pam, David, Aron, Daria, Manny voted to approve the letter, Ben abstained.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

Monument Committee (DV) The committee is waiting for the firemen to paint the flag pole and for Regonnini-Zoll to complete the granite base. Hopefully all will be finished by Nov 11, 2018.

CPC (PM) Manny appeared before CPC as a member of one of the town's boards (HHC) to inform them of any upcoming projects planned for next year and the coming years. He mentioned applying for approximately \$80,000 to finish the Bromfield wall. He also mentioned that maintenance on the First Herb House has not been done in many years. He suggested that Robert Adam, a renowned preservationist, be hired to examine the Herb House to determine if repairs are needed and how extensive they might be. The examination cost could be \$3,000. Manny also suggested that the Old Library has some broken bricks and would need repairs in the near future. He also mentioned that other municipal buildings will require maintenance as well, including Hildreth House and Bromfield House.

Cemetery Commission (DS) none

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: Corey Dufresne spoke to the commission saying that the group could be seen as "obstructionist" in its

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handling of the historic district map by changing the bylaw. He suggested that having two articles is not the way to go. Ben explained the role of the HHC and that HHC has been requested by Town Council and the BoS to clarify the note of the plan with regard to school buildings.

RESIGNATION: Ben read a letter saying he would be resigning, as a commissioner, as of that night.

EXECUTIVE SESSION None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: July 18, 2018

Meeting Adjourned

8:50