

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 the public hearing of the Harvard Historical Commission in the Volunteer Room in the Town Hall, on **Thursday, November 29, 2018** at 7:00 pm. Submitted by George Triantaris, Secretary

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA:

AUDIENCE: Applicants listed below and others as noted

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER:

7:00

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Minutes of October 3 meeting unanimously approved (Pam abstained)

PUBLIC HEARING:

Open hearing:

7:10

23 Fairbank Street, Carl Sciple: Two applications 1) add a new deck to house and 2) add solar panels on barn roof and change color of barn roof shingles.

Presentation of Applications:

Manny and Richard were recused from voting or participating as they had not been present for previous discussions and Aron was recused as he is an abutter.

Carl presented his application to add a deck on the rear of his house, over the existing brick patio, stone wall and steps. The size would be 12' x 15' (larger than the current patio and walls). There would be a stairway descending the deck on the left side (from the rear of the house) and 3 stairs to the right. He proposed using synthetic flooring for the deck and pressure treated beams and posts. The rail would have metal balusters and wooden rails. More details can be seen in the application. There were questions about the materials, design and color.

Carl presented his application to add solar panels to roof of the barn and to change the color of the shingles on the roof where the solar panels would be installed (one side only). His intent is to lessen the visual impact of the solar panels by changing the color of the shingles to a color that is similar to the panels.

Public Participation:

No members of the public appeared to comment on these applications.

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Public participation in the meeting was closed

Deliberation:

There was deliberation regarding the size of the deck and the proposed materials. The fact that the deck could be removed at a later date (and that it would not impact or alter the historic structure) was seen as positive. There was concern about the visual impact of the deck on the back of the house, which is very visible from the street. It was suggested that facing the visual elements of the deck (the sides of the platform, the stair stringer and the posts) with wood that could be painted or stained a color close to the color of the house would minimize the impact. Carl informed the commissioners that he had decided to change the stair stringer from a "saw tooth" (as shown in the application) to a conventional stringer.

There was deliberation concerning the proposed change of the color of the roof shingle. The commissioners felt that the impact of the solar panels would be increased by changing the color of the shingles to match them and that to leave the barn roof (and the other roofs) the existing gray color would deemphasize the solar panels. Carl had proposed changing the color of just one side of the barn roof and possibly changing the other side later. This was not favored. It was felt that having all the roofs (house, shed, barn and carriage barn) one uniform color would result in a more cohesive and appropriate look.

Vote:

The application for a new deck was unanimously approved subject to the homeowner following the recommendations outlined above.

The portion of the application to add solar panels on the barn roof was unanimously approved, the portion to change the color of the barn roof shingles was unanimously disapproved.

Close Hearing:

7:42 pm

NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED:

NEW APPLICATIONS:

ON-GOING APPLICATIONS: (None)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Devens jurisdiction discussion

There is an existing historic district in Devens.

Richard agreed to look for a map that would indicate if the existing district would be in the Harvard portion of Devens.

Commissioners will discuss concerns and suggestions for Select Board during a future meeting.

2. Application to Mass Historical for Herb House (EL)

Letter of intent has been submitted. If approved, a proposal for funding will be required as a next step (due in February)

3. Discuss posting HHC applications on our website

Pam to investigate if HHC might add a folder on the website to file and store applications (filed by property address, owner name and date). Applications should be reviewed upon filing to allow more time for corrections and submission of additional materials before monthly meetings.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

Discussions continue with the Town Planner to provide limited as needed support to the Harvard Historical Commission

CORRESPONDENCE:

Carl Sciple: Spring House location as regards rt 2 paving

Spring House will not be impacted by Rt. 2 paving

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

Monument Committee (DV) WWI monument project completed ~ committee now working on WWII monument

CPC Representatives of the HHC met with the CPC board to review HHC request for funding of the Mass Ave stonewall rebuilding project.

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Cemetery Commission

Demolition Delay Committee George to prepare summary document of what HHC might propose for demolition delay bylaw to be reviewed by HHC and submitted to Select Board (if approved then someone will be assigned to draft the bylaw)

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

EXECUTIVE SESSION None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: January 9, 2019

MEETING ADJOURNED:

8:49 p.m.

DOCUMENTS: Applications as filed, Devens jurisdiction materials and historic district map.