

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 a regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission held via Zoom and accessible to the public on Wednesday, **August 5, 2020** at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by George Triantaris, Secretary.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Pam Marston (Chair)
Steve Nigzus (Vice Chair)
George Triantaris (Secretary)
Emanuel Lindo ~ joined at 7:14
Richard Cabelus
Brandon Loughery
Matthew McRae

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA:

AUDIENCE:

Applicants, Pat Jennings, John Lee, Tim Schmoyer and Jon Schoenberg

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER:

7:04 pm

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Minutes of July 1st meeting unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

NEW APPLICATIONS:

1. 11 Massachusetts Avenue - Brandon Smithwood new and replaced fence

See application for details. Brandon walked the commissioners through his plans to replace parts of the stockade fence that surrounds most of the property with a similar fence (parts of the fence fell down and were removed). He will also add a cedar baluster fence across the center of the property from side to side meeting the house and including gates. There were a few questions about the property line and shrubs that might have to be removed followed by was discussion that led to the conclusion that this is an insubstantial change that meets the HHC design guidelines. Unanimous vote to treat this as an insubstantial change with Matt abstaining as he is an abutter.

2. 16 Ayer Road – Sandra Femino and Shawn McCollin new deck

See application for details regarding new deck proposed to be installed on the rear of the house but visible from the street. There were several questions about the exact location of the deck and stairs. Owners were asked to submit final plans for the next meeting. Since this is an addition to the structure it was determined this was a

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substantial change. Unanimous vote to treat this as a substantial change requiring a public hearing to be held at the next meeting.

3. 1 Ayer Road – Monument Committee Refurbish and add to WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf Conflicts monuments

Jon Schoenberg spoke on behalf of the monument committee and walked the commissioners through the proposal. Two additional monument stones will be installed as part of the project. John Lee spoke as well. As the project is located on the common and is likely to be of public interest there was a consensus that the change is substantial. Unanimous vote to treat this as a substantial change requiring a public hearing to be held at the next meeting. The committee is still finding names to add to the monuments but the design will not change.

NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED: 12 Oak Hill Road Squire Non Applicability

Pam reported that owner is replacing clapboards with like materials and will repaint the same color. Non Applicable certificate granted.

ON-GOING APPLICATIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Warrant article vote for Historic District overlay in GIS (PM)

Pam has submitted a request to Tim Bragan.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

1. Bromfield stonewall project – update (EL)
Manny reported that bids have been submitted and a decision will be made.
2. Town Center lighting and power lines – on hold
3. Certificates of Appropriateness – update on uploading prior certificates on HHC website (GT)
George reported that he and Brandon have accessed the website and have a plan for new folders to store the applications and other relevant information.
4. Design Guidelines – discuss suggested revisions (EL)
Manny reported that he has received feedback from a few commissioners. He will hold the document open for 2 weeks and then close it and finalize changes, reformat, and submit for the group's final review.
5. Rules and Regulations (previously known as policies and procedures) – update on revisions (GT)
George reported that the Rules and Regulations are essentially complete – waiting for a final consensus with Brandon and Richard on the insubstantial changes portion. Once this happens he will submit the document to the commissioners for review and approval.
6. Insubstantial Changes – create list of alterations that will be deemed insubstantial and streamline process for their approval (BL/RC)
See number 5 above.
7. Harvard Narrative History – historical survey 1993 and 1994 – on hold
8. HHC welcome packet for new homeowners – update (BL) Brochure (PM)
Brandon has made some revisions and will work on finalizing for approval by group.
9. Introduction letter to district residents (GT)
George suggested a version of the welcome packet be prepared for current residents, to acquaint them with the work of the HHC (it is assumed that some residents are not familiar with the HHC), introduce the commissioners and offer resources. This will be coordinated with the welcome place and will not go out

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- until the website has been updated.
10. List of district properties that have sold in the last 3 years (SN)
Steve will supply a list of properties in both districts that have turned over in the last 3 years to include the name and address of the new owners. This may be challenging in cases where properties are not sold through MLS.
 11. Historic Harvard Website (PM & BL)
Brandon had a meeting with Joe T and discussed how to access and preserve some of the resources on this site. He has begun data transfer. The site contains historical information and pictures that will be of use and may be moved to the HHC website (especially the information copied from MACRIS).
 12. 92 South Shaker Road (PM)
Pam will write to Alice Thayer to clarify the HHC's jurisdiction over the fencing around the vegetable garden.
 13. Herb House (ML)
Manny plans to pick up the project of documenting certain aspects of the Shaker Herb House and suggesting ways to preserve it in September.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

- Monument Committee** (RC) Richard is now the liaison to this committee.
- CPC** (PM)
- Cemetery Commission**
- Demolition Delay Committee:** (GT)

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:

September 2, 2020

MEETING ADJOURNED:

8:20 pm

DOCUMENTS:

Applications (see above)