



*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 a regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission to be held via Zoom on, Wednesday, **February 1, 2023 at 7:00 pm**. Access information for members of the public:

UpperTH ProWebinar is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86558131668?pwd=QUxCcE1lR2FlaFlEZENWNzZvOEFaQT09>

**Meeting ID: 865 5813 1668**

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**Meeting ID: 865 5813 1668**

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc2ChLjspx>

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

George Triantaris (Chair)  
Pam Marston (Vice Chair) \*joined at 7:04  
Richard Cabelus (Secretary)  
Steve Nigzus  
Emanuel Lindo  
Matthew McRae

**MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA:** Seth Trotz

**AUDIENCE:** R. Brandon Smithwood, Davida Bagatelle for Library Trustees

**TOPICS:**

**CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm**

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

Steve made a Motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Manny. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

- 1. Resumption of Public Hearing:** Harvard Advisory Energy Committee on behalf of the Town of Harvard – replacement of streetlights in the Harvard Common Historic District – David Fay – ON HOLD.



The Chair indicated he has not heard from David Fay. He presumed Mr. Fay is still waiting on lighting and would keep the Commission posted.

- 2. 11 Massachusetts Avenue:** R. Brandon Smithwood and Marguerite Davis, application for alterations to roof line of addition, replacement of windows on original house, removal of shutters, addition of solar panels on garage and other changes as outlined in application – ON HOLD at applicant's request.

The Chair indicated that the public hearing is on hold.

#### ONGOING APPLICATIONS:

- 1. 5 Fairbank Street:** Fay Martin, application for additional wooden fence, insubstantial change

The Chair indicated that Fay Martin was not able to attend this evening and this will be continued.

#### NEW APPLICATIONS:

- 1. 4 Pond Road – Library:** Davida Bagatelle, application for the installation of pole and "sail" awnings

Davida Bagatelle walked the Commission through the proposed application. Ms. Bagatelle then presented her application on behalf of the library trustees. She indicated the patio in the back of the library needed screening from the sun and the elements. She indicated that shade sails were more effective and can be removed and are not a permanent fixture. Ms. Bagatelle then went over the manner in which the shade sails are installed. The design the Trustees were looking at was a 3-sail system installed below the grade of the patio. Ms. Bagatelle then showed pictures as to how the shade sails would look. Brackets would be installed on the base of the building. Moreover, the poles could be painted to whatever color would be most appropriate. The Trustees still needed to decide what colors the shade sails should be but wanted any color to be complimentary to the surrounding environment and structure.

The Chair then indicated that the job of the Commission this evening was to decide if any change was substantial or insubstantial. The Chair indicated that usually when the change involved a public building any change is normally deemed substantial. The Chair then asked fellow Commissioners if anyone had any questions for Davida. No Commissioners had any questions. The Chair indicated that before the next meeting it would be best if the Trustees could agree on a color.

Pam made a Motion to treat the application as substantial. Richard seconded. HHC voted as follows: Matt yes. Richard Yes. Manny Yes. The Chair Yes. Steve No. The Commission voted it is a substantial change. Pam and Steve agreed to work together on the mailing notice requirement which is mailed out to the whole District. The Chair went over how the public hearing would proceed. Steve clarified why he voted No. He stated it was because the proposed changes do not affect the building and is removable. Matt seemed to agree with Steve, but said he voted substantial to give the people of the District an opportunity to contribute.

#### NON-APPLICABLE APPLICATIONS:

- 1. 11 Massachusetts Avenue:** R. Brandon Smithwood and Marguerite Davis, non-applicable application for ordinary maintenance to cedar fence



At 7:06 the Chair introduced this Non-Applicable Application. Matt met with Mr. Smithwood the previous Sunday to go over the proposed work. No Members had any questions or comments. Steve made a Motion to approve the non-applicable application. Pam seconded. The Commission approved the Motion unanimously, with Matt abstaining as an abutter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

The Chair indicated he forwarded some emails from Town administrators to the entire Commission.

**ON-GOING BUSINESS:**

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

The Rules and Regulations were changed last month. The Commission will consider exemptions at the April meeting and the Commission will take this all up again at that time.

2. Bromfield House – addition of Bromfield House to Harvard Common Historic District (GT PM)  
Still waiting to hear from AG to endorse what happened at Town Meeting and will then file that with the map.
3. Project currently on hold:  
Demolition delay  
Town Center lighting and power lines  
Harvard Narrative History- Historical surveys 1993 and 1994  
Certificates of Appropriateness – uphold historical records on website

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:**

**Monument Committee (MM)**

**CPC (PM)**

Pam said CPC voted to spend \$373, 000 of the \$900,000 in funds that was requested. All the money was spent that they had. The CPC okayed town hall debt, fire dept preservation, baseball field upgrades, affordable housing, and open space on Littleton Road.

**Transportation Advisory Committee (PM)**

**Planning Board (RC)**

There is a Special town meeting coming up on the Entertainment Overlay District. Richard also gave an update on 203 Ayer Road proposed development.

**Design Review Board (SN)**

Steve discussed Design Review Board and their work on the development of the 203 Ayer Road Project.



**Devens Committee (RC)**

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: None**

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:** March 1, 2023

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 7:25 pm. The Commission Voted Unanimously to adjourn.