



Minutes for Regular Meeting

Location: Center on the Common, Fireplace Room

Wednesday Evening Sept 3, 2014 at 7:00 PM

"Oversee modifications to the Harvard Common and Shaker Village Historic Districts in accordance with the state and local bylaws, and generally support historic preservation in Harvard."

TOPICS:

Call to Order, Attendance, Review/approve minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:06

The attendees are : Ken Swanton, Joe Theriault, Moe Dancause, Sherry Graham, Chris Cutler, Pam Marston and Ron Ostberg

Ken did not vote as he was absent at the last meeting. The minutes were accepted as read.

Comments from members of the public: none

Public Hearing: None

Scheduled Application Appointments: None

Status of Open Applications /Projects

Powder House Restoration: (KS) Ken informed the commissioners the restoration had not started because there had been no permit applied for but that has been corrected. The wiring for power and storing bricks will be coming from the storage building close by. Jeremy will clean all the bricks and store them and rebuild.

Town Hall Renovation (KS,RO,CC) Ken shared information regarding an early Oct special town meeting to vote on the plan recommended by the Selectmen. An inspection of the building was done in 2011 and was very comprehensive according to Chris and Ron. It determined that a vapor barrier is necessary in order to protect the exterior and retain heat and cooling. The commissioners agreed that Ken should write a letter from HHC promoting the renovation.

Hildreth House (Window Replacement) (CC) Chris reported that there is a lot of "fix it stuff" included in the list of repairs and renovations for Hildreth House. HHC's job is to observe whether the renovation is historically appropriate. The commission should have a follow up to make sure the funds are spent where they were supposed to be spent.

Shaker Burial Ground Tree Removal (MD) Moe reported that the plan is to keep the area of the tree removal clean and mowed. Wood chips from the tree removal will be removed.

Stone Wall in front of Library (RO, CC) The wall will be repaired in three sections over the next three years as CPC funds become available.

Historic House Marker Program (PM) Pam reports the program is ready to go. Carlene will be asked to write an article for the paper, announcing the program, to go with the picture Ken has taken of his plaque.



Status of Open Action Items : Review Action Item List

The MACRIS database covers all the historic properties in town. For each district there should be a list of all the properties in the district.

Chris replaced the broken Historic District sign on Ayer Road near the Town Hall.

The trail to the Spring House needs clearing and cleaning. Sherry thought that the scouts could help with that as a badge project.

Moe informed HHC about visitors stopping at the Shaker Burial Ground to ask him, one day when he was there, about the Cemetery. He feels that it looks unkempt and needs to be mowed. He will mention this to HCC.

Reports from Committees and Liaisons:

CPC: Pam will meet with CPC at their next meeting to see if the CPC agrees with the HHC that the HHC should assure that CPC funds that were approved for any project are actually spent for the historical preservation purposes declared in the application. She attended the last one and reported on the HHC initiatives of the stone wall and Hildreth House. CPC told her to connect with Connie Larrabee regarding monitoring the renovations at Hildreth House.

Maintenance of town buildings: The Commission feels that a committee needs to keep track of maintenance of the town buildings. Many have gone unrepaired for many years requiring major restoration projects because of lack of repairs and maintenance. The Capital Planning committee may have plans. Are they budgeting monies for restorations, maintenance?

Membership Cmte (JT) – including new alternate members

There will be a press release on our website to inform the public about projects we have going on. Hopefully we can get kids from the high school to participate in some projects.

Cemetery Commission Liaison (MD)HCC hopes to get an agreement from Rich Nota that DPW will maintain the cemeteries from now on.

Communications Cmte (JT) Check About Us page to see our assignments. We are listed there. Ken, Joe and Pam are on Drop Box for now. Others will be added later.

Local Register of Historic Places Program (JT) no report

Master Plan Steering Cmte Liaison (JT) still the same. There will be a new schedule.

New Business :

There is a question about a proposed swing set on Fairbank St. Commissioners will look at the property before the next meeting before the owner comes before the board with an application.

Policies/Procedures (if any): none

Other New Business: none

The next meeting will be October 1, 2014

Adjourned 9:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

13 AYER ROAD • HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01451



Pamela Marston,
Secretary