

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."

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission held in the Volunteer Room at the Town Hall, on November 2, 2016 at 7:00pm.

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER:

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ben Guthro, Pam Marston, Steve Nigzus, Daria Swanton, George Triantaris, David Vannicola, Rick Veltri

AUDIENCE: N/A

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: APPOINT A NOTE TAKER: Review minutes for September 7, 2016, unanimously approved (Steve Nigzus was not present for this vote)

PUBLIC HEARING: None

NEW APPLICATIONS: None

NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED: The following applications (approved by Chairperson Pam Marston) were discussed

1. Certificate of Non-Applicability: Steve Nigzus 11 Fairbank to replace 3 windows in attic of The Inn
2. Certificate of Non-Applicability: Matt Cruickshank for owner 11 Lovers Lane to replace porch

OTHER APPLICATIONS:

1. Approve CPC vote to spend \$24,752 for preserving town records – HHC voted unanimously to approve
2. Endorse CPC vote to spend \$700 to paint railings at Hildreth House – HHC voted unanimously to endorse
3. Approve CPC vote to spend \$80,000 to rebuild the rest of the stone wall at Bromfield – HHC voted unanimously to approve the plan as submitted

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **Michael Steinitz, Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer:** Discuss the grant possibilities available from MHC for town preservation of inventories, nomination of properties for historical preservation or projects for the protection of significant historic buildings, structures, archaeological sites and landscapes. Applications must be received, by mail, by Nov 14, 2016. HCC decided it would not pursue a grant this year since it was not prepared with potential projects and the due date for proposals was imminent. It was decided to review the proposal process and identify potential projects for the next grant cycle. George Triantaris will investigate the process.
2. **Lisa McLoughlin, Project Coordinator:** Discuss the Nolumbeka Project where commissions help create a memorandum of understanding template where tribes and towns support each other in protecting their Native American cultural resources. Working meeting scheduled for Dec 3, 2016 9-5 Greenfield, MA. HHC may not be the appropriate committee for this request as the sites identified are likely outside the historic district.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

Historic House Marker Program (PM) no new applications. HHC will explore ways to encourage more markers
Cemetery Commission Liaison (DS)
Community Preservation Cmte Liaison (PM) CPC monies approved for Hildreth, Town records, wall
Master Plan Steering Cmte Liaison TBD

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Look at drawings of accessibility plans for the Old Library in order to update the access. HHC may have to approve an application to remodel the steps to the library. Daria Swanton presented initial plans. No action required at this time.
2. Discuss working on completing the project, already started by Joe Theriault, which documents the historic structures in Harvard. Recent digital photos have been taken of the various historical properties in town.

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Descriptions of these properties were created and cataloged by historians at the behest of other historic commissions a number of years ago. Updating these documents might be a project for a future MHC grant.

3. Discuss the Hildreth property and ramifications of elderly housing on that site. It was noted by the HHC that portions of both parcels 35 and 36 on Assessors' Map 17C which were the subject of Overlay District vote at a Special Town Meeting on October 24, 2016 lay within the Harvard Common Historical District and any development of those parcels will likely need to be reviewed and approved by the HHC. No action required at this time.

4. Jack Guswa, of The Hildreth House Construction Committee, called Pam Marston to inform the HHC that the beehive fence posts at the end of the Hildreth House driveway may need to be moved further apart to conform to new fire department regulations about driveway widths.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY N/A

EXECUTIVE SESSION (NOT SCHEDULED)

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: December 7, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

8:02

Respectfully submitted by George Triantaris