

## 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."*

Following are the minutes for the regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission in the Volunteer Room at Town Hall on April 4, 2018 at 7:00pm.

### TOPICS:

#### CALL TO ORDER:

7:00

#### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

George Triantaris  
Daria Swanton  
Aron Clarke  
Pam Marston (Secretary)

Emanuel Lindo  
Ben Guthro (Chair)  
David Vannicola (Vice-Chair)  
Steve Nigzus

#### MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA: none

**PRESENTERS:** Complete Streets representatives: Erin McBee and Mike Myers

**REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** The minutes were accepted, unanimously, as amended by adding George's notes regarding the notation of schools in the district being excluded \*(see below)

#### ON-GOING APPLICATIONS / PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Guthro Fence application: Pam, Aaron, David and Manny voted for the application. Other members were abutters and could not vote.
2. Sevigny Driveway/Hardscape application moved to approve as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor.

#### NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED: (None)

#### NEW APPLICATIONS: (None)

#### ON-GOING BUSINESS:

1. Complete Streets Update from Erin McBee and Mike Myers (BG)  
Erin and Mike discussed the sidewalks plan for the center district. Pam did express concerns about a sidewalk in front of the Congregational Church. Also, along where there is parking in front of the General Store, stating that there seems to be very little space there and could possibly create a traffic problem. HHC will be updated on the progress of the grant.
2. Town Warrant rework for clarification of school buildings in historic districts (BG)  
HHC discussed whether to officially request BOS to direct town counsel to craft two different warrant articles and create a preferred order of presentation. Ken had recommended we vote as to whether to bring it to the STM. A sub committee was established to craft verbiage for the warrant article. Then town counsel would approve or amend for presentation to STM as an article. The commissioners voted for proposal #1 or #2  
#1 only Bromfield excluded (6 votes: Steve, **Manny**, David, Daria, Pam, George)  
#2 All school buildings existing and future ones be excluded (1 vote: **Ben**)  
The sub committee consists of George, Steve and Manny
3. Bromfield wall rebuild (EL) The edge of the old granite top is rusticated, the new is not. The color of the new is lighter but not significantly so as to be obvious. The contractor received a progress payment and has sent a second progress statement.

## **HARVARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

13 AYER ROAD • HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01451



### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Application for Certificate procedure wording clarification; abutters notices specifically. The change will say, "At the same time, a notice of the public hearing will also be mailed to abutters within 100 feet, for residential properties and to the entire district for non-residential properties."

2. A Non Applicability Certificate was given to Dan McGrath for a new roof on his barn.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Warrant Article discussions with Ken Swanton

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:**

**Monument Committee** (DV) Restorations are progressing with the hope that it can be finished by Memorial Day.

**CPC** (PM) none

**Cemetery Commission** (DS) none

### **PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION** None

**SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:** May 2, 2018

**Meeting Adjourned 8:50**

\* add the following language

There was a discussion concerning whether the proposed school building, a portion of which would be constructed within the historic district (according to map "Plan of Harvard Common Historic District – Revision D – March 2015"), will be subject to review of HHC. There is a notation on the Plan next to the Bromfield School which states "School buildings excluded". There is and has been a question as to what this note means. Does it mean that all current and future school buildings in the district are excluded, that the current buildings in the district are excluded, or that Hildreth is excluded? Ben reminded the commissioners that he has had discussions with past chairman and was not able to learn the intention of this notation. Town Counsel is of the opinion that the notation would be interpreted to include all present and future school buildings, although there is no evidence of intent. The commissioners could not reach a consensus on the meaning and some felt that interpreting the Plan was not the responsibility of HHC. There was also a concern raised in view of bylaw §48-10 (a) which states that "the Town of Harvard shall be subject to the provisions of this bylaw notwithstanding any Town bylaw to the contrary" calling into question the ability of the town to exempt the school buildings. Ken pointed out that this may be an issue if the project moves forward and abutters have concerns and seek advice from HHC. There was a discussion about whether a question should be put up for a vote via the Town Warrant and how that would be written. In the end, Ken was asked to put the question before the BOS for advice as the liaison to the BOS.