

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** of a public hearing and regular meeting of the Harvard Historical Commission, held at Hildreth House, on **Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 7 pm**.
Submitted by George Triantaris, Secretary.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Pam Marston (Chair)
George Triantaris (Secretary)
Steve Nigzus
Emanuel Lindo
Richard Cabelus

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA:

David Vannicola (Vice Chair)

AUDIENCE: WWII monument committee representatives, Pat Jennings, Tim Schmoyer, John Lee

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER:

7:00 pm

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The minutes from the December 4, 2019 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Revise Policies and Procedures document i.e. exemptions

Public Hearing Opened at 7:20

Commissioners' Deliberation and Vote

Deliberation was continued from last meeting. It was agreed that the current exemptions located in the appendix (pages 35 and 36) of the Harvard Historical Commission Policies & Procedures, January 6, 2015, version 3.0, would be eliminated in their entirety. A new section 2A will be inserted entitled "Exemptions from Review". Various exemptions were considered including those in the current version and those suggested for consideration by the Mass. Commission. There was debate about exempting certain features (such as driveways and paint and roof color) considered important but not essential. This would prevent any input from the Commission, however, and so it was decided to define certain features as insubstantial and thereby still subject to an application, but via a faster review process than what is required for a public hearing. Determining which features will be treated as insubstantial will be considered at a future meeting and will need to be coordinated with the design guidelines, the application form and the revised policies and procedures. In the end, a few exemptions were approved (to be added to those included in the bylaw) and will be outlined in the new Section 2A. A motion was made to remove all current exemptions contained on pages 36 & 36 (as described above) and insert a new Section 2A with the exemptions outlined during the discussion. This was approved by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing Closed at 8:00

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NEW APPLICATIONS: none

NEW APPLICATIONS APPROVED: none

ON-GOING APPLICATIONS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

George asked the commission to consider how it could initiate a project to bury the power and other lines in the town center and add appropriate lighting. This will be considered at a future meeting.

Manny asked that the topic of considering the discrepancies between the Harvard and State design guidelines be discussed at the next meeting.

George asked that streamlining the process for insubstantial change applications be considered at the next meeting.

ON-GOING BUSINESS: none

CORRESPONDENCE: none

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LIAISONS:

War Memorial Restoration Committee (DV)

Pat, Tim and John explained the committee's plans to add two additional granite markers with bronze plaques listing veterans of WWII, Korea and Vietnam. While they will submit an application at a later date they supplied a copy of the current plans which have the markers in a half circle with a circular patio in front. The committee is seeking endorsements from various groups in order to bolster their applications for grants and town funding to complete the project. A motion was unanimously approved for the Commission to endorse the project in principal and Pam will prepare a letter outlining this to send to the Jon Schoenberg (chair).

CPC (PM)

Waiting for update on funding decisions

Cemetery Commission

Demolition Delay Committee:

George reported that he attended a demolition delay conference focused on how to administer such bylaws. There were some relevant points for Harvard to be included in the presentation explaining how the bylaw would work. George will circulate the draft bylaw for review before the next meeting. There will be a presentation to the Historical Society in February. Pam will investigate the timeline for getting this in front of the Select Board in time for consideration at Spring Town Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: February 5, 2020

MEETING ADJOURNED:

8:38 pm

DOCUMENTS:

Documents related to War Memorial Restoration project

Documents related to Policies and Procedures and exemptions review