



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, **June 7, 2023 at 7:00 pm**. Access information for members of the public:

UpperTH ProWebinar is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

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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)
Richard Cabelus (Secretary)
Steve Nigzus
Emanuel Lindo
Matthew McRae

MEMBERS IN ABSENTIA: Matthew McRae, Emanuel Lindo

AUDIENCE: Fay Martin, [Fay Martin's son need a name], Sandra Famino, Rebecca Sewall.

TOPICS:

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 1. 5 Fairbank Street:** Fay Martin, Installation of Heat Pumps.

This hearing was continued. The Chair and Steve are abutters to the applicant. Two members were absent. There was not a sufficient quorum to call the hearing to order and complete it. There will be new members beginning next month. The Hearing was continued until the July 5, 2023 meeting to obtain a quorum.



2. 16 Ayer Road: Sandra Famino, work to include switching and replacing a door and window.

The hearing was called to order. Ms. Famino walked us through the application. Steve shared his screen. The Commission was advised that the property was built in 1895. This Application was filed, and then Amended by subsequent filing. The Application was to create a pathway from the driveway to the front door (with pavers); to replace the front step with granite slab; replace the porch door with a window and to replace the window with a door (swap out a door and window in essence). The Applicant showed a picture of the front porch where the replacement granite step would go, as well as a picture of the proposed granite slab to be installed. The Applicant also showed a picture of the front of the house and the front lawn. Part of the front lawn would be replaced with a walkway. A picture of the proposed material was also affixed to the picture, slate concrete pavers of a parquet type pattern. The Applicant also provided a picture of the side façade of the house where they proposed replacing the side door with a window, and the side window with a door. This was to be done to increase the livable space in the house. Further, the window, which someone would encounter immediately upon ascending 3 steps onto the side porch would be replaced by a door. The door that was currently to someone's immediate right upon ascending those steps would now encounter a window if they turned right 45 degrees. The proposed window would be, white pane, two over two, a Plygem 200 Double Hung. It would be installed at the same height as the other windows on that side of the house. The Applicant further explained that the new door would have trim that matched the existing door, and window trim that matched the existing window.

There were no members of the public that spoke on the application.

The Commission deliberated. Seth and The Chair indicated they have no issue with the walkway, as it is replaceable and not part of the original structure. Richard inquired as to the granite stone and if its coloring would exactly match other stone there. The Applicant indicated it would be similar in color. Seth made a Motion to approve the step and walkway. Steve seconded the Motion. The Motion was approved unanimously.

The Commission then deliberated the door and window replacement. Richard and Pam indicated that the Commission previously approved a large opening on the back of the house, and that this would be less invasive than that. The Chair indicated that while this was certainly a significant project, as it is on the side of the house, and the windows and door were not original to the structure, he was ok with the façade changes and additions.

Seth motioned to approve the rest of the application; Pam seconded. The Commission voted to unanimously approve the application. The Applicant thanked the Commission.

ONGOING APPLICATIONS:

1. Harvard Advisory Energy Commission on Behalf of the Town of Harvard – Replacement of Streetlights in the Harvard Common Historic District – David Fay

Mr. Fay sent an email that the Chair read into the record. The issue was how dim the lighting would be. The Chair indicated that the Commission cannot go to public hearing on the lights because we need more information, and we are awaiting a further update from Mr. Fay.

NEW APPLICATIONS: None.



NON-APPLICABLE APPLICATIONS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chair's Updates, procedural items, and project progress report review- GT

The Chair indicated updated rules are on the Town's website and posted. The Chair also indicated that a significant upgrade in user-friendliness for prospective applicants is that the forms, specifically, the Application for Certificate of Appropriateness can now be populated online and printed out. This will help Applicant's with organization and make applications for more legible.

The Chair then briefly introduced Rebecca Sewall as a new member. All members warmly welcomed her. The Chair indicated another new member to fill Manny's slot as architect will also be joining the Commission, and should be joining at next Month's meeting. The Chair indicated she already has experience working on historic homes in the Historic District as she worked on outgoing member Matt McRae's home. The Chair also indicated he was hopeful a new alternate is expected to start in July and is a resident of Shaker Village.

The Chair discussed ongoing violations in the districts and we may discuss notifying homeowner of the perceived violation, at a future hearing.

The Chair also indicated he wanted to pull up some useful restorative information on old window restoration that would be useful for Town residents, and to highlight the fact that even windows that have ben neglected over very long periods of time, can be restored, and many times are also cost efficient.

2. Overview of Historic Plaque Process – PM

Pam went over how the Plaque Process works and the costs associated with it. Pam indicated that we should try to encourage as many homes of historic significance as possible to have a plaque as it is a nice fixture and overall enhances the district.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

1. 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)

Chair asked if Seth wanted to be liaison now. They do not seem very active and does not require a lot of engagement, but having a point of contact.



CPC (PM)

Nothing to report.

Transportation Advisory Committee (PM)

Nothing to report.

Planning Board (RC)

Nothing to report.

Design Review Board (SN)

Nothing to report.

Devens Committee

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

SET DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: July 5, 2023.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:44 pm. The Commission Voted Unanimously to adjourn.