WESTPORT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2016

**Presen**t
Members: Bill Kendall, Paul Somerson, Geraldine Millham, David Paddock, Rud Lawrence

Alternates: Ted Kinnari (voting member), Caroline Bolter (voting member), Beverly Schuch, Henry Swan
**Absent:**

Members: Jane Loos, Janet Jones

**Others in Attendance**:

Barrett Allen- Recording Secretary

Sam Barnard and Sally (Architect) – 199 Fisherville Lane

Ashley Sparks- Architect for 1963 Main Rd

Mr. Audlee- 1913 Drift Road

Tony Millham

Betty Slade

Bill Kendall (BK), chair, opened meeting at 6:00pm.

**A. General Business**

1. Minutes of Sept. 6th, 2016 Meeting. Accepted. DP Moves, RL 2nds, all in favor.

2. Treasurer’s Report as of 11-7-2016. See **attachment A**. RL motions to accept, PS 2nds, Vote in favor was unanimous.

3. Powderhouse restoration project. See **attachment B**.

4. CPC Acoaxet Chapel project. WHC was previously asked to review and approved of the design for the new handicap entrance. In addition they need a side entrance for an emergence exit. This door will replace an existing window on the North side of the chapel. RL motions to recommend the design as drawn, GM seconds. All in favor.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Demolition hearing for 199 Fisherville Lane- Owners Sam and Susan Barnard. Sally accompanies to speak on behalf of the owners. 6:15pm

* GM reads report from site visit meeting. See **attachment C.**
* TK questions why they would want to demolish the house. Sam answers that the interior is in such horrible condition that he does not want to renovate, due to cost and design, and he does not trust the existing structure. Sam is interested in keeping the historic integrity, but he does not see how to make this structure his home.
* RL does not see the historic relevance of this building. DP thinks this building has lost its historic value 40 years ago, he recommends a sign noting the history of the river access to this house. BS is impressed with the owners research and understands that a renovation is not a great solution.
* Sally explains her career with historic architecture and she believes that this house has been neglected and has lost all detail that would be worth saving. This house has gone past its lifetime.
* RL moves to approve demolition permit. BS seconds. GM opposes. Majority approves. Application approval will be submitted.

2. Public hearing for a Certificate of Appropriateness for 1963 Main Road to build a 9x12 freestanding shed/outbuilding. Owner Beverly Schuch and architect Ashley Sparks presents. 6:45pm

* Materials will match the main house (white cedar shingle siding, metal roof, true divided light windows).
* GM questions asymmetrical design. Owner and Architect will amend design to keep overhang but make symmetrical.
* RL moves to approve the application with amendment to asymmetrical roof design. TK seconds. All in favor

3. Preliminary review for certificate of appropriateness for 1913 Drift Road to replace front stone steps. Mr. Audlee presents. 6:55pm

* The stone steps leading to the front door are in rough shape and unsafe. He proposes to remove and rebuild with granite and stone. WHC agrees that the proposed solution is good and he can present at the next WHC meeting.
* Submits certificate for non-applicability to paint the trim like-for-like.

**A. General Business continued…**

5. Handy House requests to remove wallpaper in the two West end bedrooms. Tony Millham presents. 7:05

* “Modern” wall paper is in poor condition. A section of the paper could be preserved for future reference. Depending on the condition, nothing would be done to the plaster wall once the wallpaper is removed. These rooms are used for Historic Society display and without the distraction of this destroyed wallpaper it will be a more affective space.
* RL moves to remove the wallpaper as discussed. DP seconds. All in favor.

6. Westport Historical Society presents CPC funding review: to repair read addition, restore bell tower and sill replacement to the Bell School House. Tony Millham presents. 7:10

* The sill replacement is necessary for the survival of this building. Tony presents a solution that is more cost effective than what was first designed. This solution will not have an impact on the visible exterior of the building.
* RL moves to recommend this solution for the sill replacement. BS seconds. All in favor.
* WHS is looking to restore the bell tower to its original material and detail. They are proposing to strip off the bell tower’s inappropriate exterior material and rebuild with the trim work, with quality materials and paint, to match what is seen in the 1890’s photographs.
* RL moves that WHC recommends restoring the bell tower to what’s seen in the 1890 photographs and recommends the rear addition repair as presented. CB seconds. All in favor.

7. CPC Funding Review presented by Betty Slade. 7:30

* The Town Hall annex roof needs to be replaced, does WHC have an opinion on the color of the asphalt shingle roof.
* RL recommends the replacement of the Town Hall annex roof in a similar dark green color to existing. BS seconds. All in favor.
* Historic burial grounds signage: funding for 50+ signs is proposed, GM is designing the signs.
* RL recommends this project as submitted. BS seconds. All in favor.
* Historic trail signage: Paul Cuffee event is planning to set up a trail from New Bedford to Westport with historic stops along the way. CPC would like 10 permanent signs for these locations.
* RL recommends this project as submitted. BS seconds. All in favor.

8. Amendments to the Point Historic District By-law to include review of roofs, stone walls, and fences. 7:45

* WHC presented a set of guidelines to the Point Association meeting at the past winter and summer meetings. The summer meeting did not have positive results. If clear and more direct guidelines on WHC regulation details were presented, the residents might have a better understanding of their limitations. New materials have come on the market since the guidelines were written, what are appropriate materials and colors for roofs and fences should be clarified. Solar panels should also be included in this by-law.
* Before taking this to the town meeting, WHC would like to have the support of the neighborhood association. RL, BS, and GM volunteer as subcommittee to ask for public input and research other historic district regulations on these issues.

BK motions to adjourn, BS 2nds. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Attachments: A: WHC Treasurer’s Report as of 11-7-16

 B: Powderhouse site visit report

 C: 199 Fisherville Ln. site visit report

Draft Prepared by Barrett Allen 11-7-16

Minutes accepted by WHC 12-5-16