

Westport Historical Commission
March 9, 2015

Present

Member: Janet Jones, Bill Kendall, Jane Loos, Geraldine Millham, David Paddock,
Alternate: none

Absent:

Member: Stanley Cornwall, Paul Somerson
Alternate: Jim Collins, Christine Vezetinski

Others in Attendance:

Carol Long & H. Richard Jepson, 1886 Main Road, WPT
Jenny O'Neill, Westport Historical Society
Gregory Nowell, 1907 Drift Road, WPT

Chair Bill Kendall (BK) opened the meeting at 7pm in the basement meeting area at Town Hall, noting that 5 votes are present, sufficient for a quorum. .

A. General Business

1. Minutes of February 10, 2015 Meeting. Draft minutes had been circulated via email. Geraldine Millham (GM) moved and David Paddock (DP) seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor, with Janet Jones (JJ) abstaining because she had not attended that meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report. Geraldine Millham (GM) presented the Treasurer's Report as of March 9, 2015 (Attachment I). Jane Loos (JL) moved and JJ seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The vote in favor was unanimous in favor.
 - (a) WHC expense account unspent balance of \$725. Revenue account \$0.
 - (b) WHC Trust Account balance of \$13,919.12.
 - (c) Wolf Pit School Trust balance of \$6,756.67
 - (d) Town Farm expense account unspent balance of \$218.80; the Town Farm Trust account balance of \$8,790.58.

3. Finance Committee Annual Budget Preparations. GM reported that she met with the Town Finance Committee concerning WHC FY2015-2016 budget request, including a request for funding to hire a paid clerk. While sympathetic, the Finance Committee did not agree to this request, and suggested that WHC increase its fees and use in-house personnel who are familiar with State public meeting requirements.

4. Bell School House. Jenny O'Neill, Westport Historical Society, explained that WHC had already approved proposed work to stabilize the sill at the Bell School House. Upon further inspection, it appears that the work is more complicated than originally understood, and will require sill on three sides to be replaced in order to align them with the foundation put under the building in 1976. Ms. O'Neill confirmed that the resulting appearance would be the same .

5. JL moved and DP seconded a motion to approve this work. The vote was unanimous in favor. Ms. O'Neill will provide a letter size rendering of the plans for WHC files. WHC will inform the Building Inspector of this approval.

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6. By-Law. BK reminded that the proposed change in WHC By-Law will be considered at the forthcoming Town Meeting, Tuesday May 5, 2015.

7. Acoaxet Inn. JL read to the meeting the letter sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals in support of the proposed re-use of the Inn as condominium apartments (Attachment II).

8. Dartmouth Cell Tower. BK reminded that WHC needs to send a letter in support of the Dartmouth Historical Commission position on building cell towers near historic buildings and properties.

9. Handy House Subcommittee. BK informed that the third member was JJ, not JL.

10. Oscar Palmer Farm Subcommittee — GM provided a copy of the subcommittee report on the January 12, 2015 inspection of this property (Attachment III).

10. Annual Report on the Town Farm. GM provided a copy of the 2014 Annual Report (Attachment IV).

11. Monitor Reports.

1936 Main — Borges, no work underway. yet; BK reminded that monitors are DP, PS and himself.

1985F Main — JL to request confirmation from contractor on height of the roof peak to ensure that it is built as approved.

2019 Main — JL and BK to visit site to review proposed changes in approved plans.

12. Other Business. BK requested that members/alternates inform him in advance if they are not able to attend a meeting. JL offered to conduct a guided tour of WHC files so that all members know where information is held and how to gain access to it. BK suggested that we make this tour at the beginning of the April 2, 2015 meeting.

B. Public Hearing 1886 Main Road

1. JL recused herself as an abutter. Richard Jepson & Carol Long (owners) and Gregory Nowell presented the proposed plans to add a screened porch on the east side of their house. There would be no changes in fenestration and the porch would be only slightly visible from Main Road and blocked by neighboring houses from the public view on Drift Road. The meeting noted that the proposed plans are harmonious with the existing building.

2. GM moved and DP seconded a motion to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for the proposed work. The vote was unanimous in favor, with JL abstaining. BK appointed JJ and DP as monitors.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, April 6, 2015 at 7pm. The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

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draft prepared by JL, approved May 4, 2015

Attachments:

- I Treasurer's Report
- II ZBA letter re Acoaxet Inn
- III Oscar Palmer Farm Annual Inspection Report
- IV Town Farm Annual Report