Westport Historical Commission

May 4, 2015 Minutes

Present

Member: Stanley Cornwall, Janet Jones, Jane Loos, Geraldine Millham, David Paddock, Paul Somerson

Alternate: Ken Schadegg, Christine Vezetinski

Absent:

Member: Bill Kendall Alternate: Jim Collins,

Others in Attendance:

Sharon Connors 2032 Main Road, WPT Joe Greaney 1985f Main Road, WPT Barbara Koenitzer 1953 Main Road, WPT

Jake Talbot Contractor for 1985f Main Road, WPT

Acting Chair Geraldine Millham (GM) opened the meeting at 7pm in the basement meeting area at Town Hall. GM appointed Alternate Christine Vezetinski (CV) as the 7th vote.

A. General Business

- 1. <u>Minutes of March 9, 2015 Meeting.</u> Draft minutes had been circulated via email. Janet Jones (JJ) proposed a number of editorial corrections. Janet Jones (JJ) moved and David Paddock (DP) seconded a motion to approve the minutes as revised. The vote was unanimous in favor, with two abstaintions (Stanely Cornwall (CS) and Paul Somerson (PS)) because they had not attended that meeting.
- 2. <u>Treasurer's Report</u>. Geraldine Millham (GM) presented the Treasurer's Report as of May 4, 2015 (Attachment I). GM noted that we still have not yet drawn on our annual budget allocation, and advised that all likely expenses should be turned in for reimbursement before the beginning of June.
- (a) WHC expense account unspent balance of \$725. Revenue account \$50.
- (b) WHC Trust Account balance of \$14,078.26.
- (c) Wolf Pit School Trust balance of \$6,790.76.
- (d) Town Farm expense account unspent balance of \$122.89; the Town Farm Trust account balance of \$8,834.91.
- 3.. Jane Loos (JL) moved and JJ seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- 4. Introduction of New Alternate Member. GM welcomed Ken Schadegg to the Commission. GM noted the highly relevant background and experience that Mr. Schadegg will bring to WHC work. Mr. Schadegg was a member of the Providence HIstoric District Commission that oversaw 7 Historic Districts, and worked as an Urban Engineer with Providence Department of Planning. He also undertook the very successful renovation of the Chandys House at Westport's West Beach, and is now completing work on another house in that area.
- **B. 1.** Public Hearing for changes to Certificate of Appropriateness for 2028 Main Road. GM informed the meeting that this application has been withdrawn.

B. 2. Public Hearing for changes to Certificate of Appropriateness for 1985f Main Road

Joe Greaney, owner, and Jake Talbot, contractor, presented drawings for proposed changes to the approved plans. These included changes that would not be visible from a public way —adding outdoor shower to south east corner of garage; removing 8" granite stone veneer from south facade of garage and adding the same to the east facade around the entry stairway; and changing the style of two exterior wood doors on the first floor east facade. The proposed change to the fireplace chimney from parged to 2" granite stone veneer would be visible from a public way, and the discussion focussed on that topic. Mr. Greaney noted that there are a variety of chimney materials other than brick in the district, including a few stone chimneys and aluminum stove pipes.

The meeting agreed that the change to stone would be an improvement and better match the style of the house. SC moved and DP seconded a motion to approve the proposed chimney material to stone veneer, and to grant a Certificate of Non-Applicability for the four other proposed changes that are not visible from a public way. The vote in favor was unanimous.

A. General Business, continued.

- 5. By-Law. GM reminded that the proposed change in WHC By-Law will be considered at the forthcoming Town Meeting, Tuesday May 5, 2015. GM will make the presentation in BK's absence.
- 6. 233 Old Harbor Road. GM reported that documents concerning this property had been submitted to and accepted by the Massachusetts Historical Commission and included in Westport's Historic Inventory.
- 7. Monitors' Reports. Handy House, Oscar Palmer Farm and Town Farm nothing to report 1813-1815 Main Road — project still stalled
- 1875 Main Road (barn) GM named SC as a monitor to determine if project is completed as approved.
- 1886 Main Road: JJ reported that work has just begun
- 1936 Main Road; nothing yet underway
- 1985f Main RoaD: subject of public hearing, see above; JL confirmed that the contractor presented information confirming the height of the building is slightly less than approved plans.
- 2019 Main Road: JL reported that BK and she had visited the site and approved a certificate of non-ap plicabilty for the deck material that is not visible from a public way and for the addition of a third sky light in the new addition, next to the two other sky lights that were ap proved under the original Certificate of Appropriateness.
- 8. Guidelines and New Materials. JL explained that after several WHC discussions about new materials, BK formed a subcommittee including himself, PS and JL to work through a draft. That subcommittee determined that it would be useful to consider reworking the existing guidelines into a more user-friendly document with index for quick seaches. JL prepared a draft in November 2014, but this document was not yet considered by WHC, given cancelled meetings during the winter months, etc. A copy of the November draft was sent electronically to all WHC members on May 3, 2015. JL suggested that all members take time to review both the current published guidelines booklet and the revised format/arrangement in the November draft, to be able to discuss pros and cons, options, etc of both substance and presentation at a future WHC meeting.

Westport Historical Commission

May 4, 2015 Minutes

9. <u>Visit the Files</u>. GM suggested that a guided tour of WHC files be re-scheduled for June 1, so that all members know where information is held and how to gain access to it.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, June 1, 2015 at 7pm. The meeting adjourned at. 8:20 pm.

draft prepared by JL, approved June 1, 2015

Attachment I Treasurer's Report