

WESTPORT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MAY 2nd, 2016

Present

Members: Paul Somerson, Janet Jones, Bill Kendall, Jane Loos, David Paddock,
Geraldine Millham, Ken Schadegg
Alternate: Ted Kinnari

Absent:

Alternate: Jim Collins

Others in Attendance:

Barrett Allen- Recording Secretary
Bill Hunt- Owner at 2039 Main Rd.
Betty Slade- CPC

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

A. General Business

1. Minutes of April 11th, 2016 Meeting. Accepted. JJ Moves, JL 2nds
2. Treasurer's Report as of 4-27-2016. See **attachment A**. JL motions to except, JJ 2nds, Vote in favor was unanimous.
3. WRWA Head of Westport Garage Sub-committee.
 - GM updates board on design improvements, everyone agrees the design is better than that presented last month. WHC approves the plans for renovations to this building. See **attachment B**.
 - Deborah Weaver (Director of WRWA) is working on a grant for site work at the Head of Westport (parking and public access) and would like to present to WHC. Looking for a letter of support from the WHC for the site plan, but WHC would need more specific information. A letter could say "we (WHC) support historic public access to the town landing at the Head of Westport in order for the historic site to be preserved." JL will draft a letter for BK to review; BK will decide whether to approve the letter. DP moves, KS 2nds. Vote in favor was unanimous.
4. Guild property committee- DP presents review. The town did not accept the offer to acquire the land around the Adamsville Millpond. They decided that there is no gain for the town, only future cost. The committee is no longer current.
5. Several properties in the Historic District are currently in Bankruptcy: 1913 Drift Rd. and 1874 Main Rd. With this information, the WHC informed the banks that these properties are in the Historic District and any future buyers should know this.

6. Continuation of CPC's new requirements and assistance relevant to the WHC as suggested by Betty Slade. See **attachment C**.

1- No. "Preservation" is what is relevant to the WHC. When asked for our opinion on a preservation project, we would help and be available to assist with any questions.

2- No. WHC cannot have this liability.

3- No, we do not have the resources or capacity to help with this

4- Yes, if WHC supports a preservation project and the project is funded and completed, any future changes of the funded parts of the building should be brought in front of the WHC for approval to maintain the integrity of the original grant.

Concern: How do we keep track/police the projects?

5- Yes, we already give our opinion (NOT approval) to CPC

6- Yes, when the town is considering any renovation to or new public building or space (ex: a cemetery) we would like the Board of Selectman to inform us and give WHC an option to have a WHC member on the committee. (Positive example is the Westport Fire Station).

7- Yes

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Continuation for a hearing for Certificate of Appropriateness for 2039 Main Road at 6:20pm

- Bill Hunt, owner, continues to present a proposal for new windows and sliding door on rear "L" addition of his home.
- He presents the window manufactures drawings to replace the windows and the trim work. The new trim will match existing and the space between the bank of three windows will be 3 1/2". Owner also asks to replace shingles on the South and West elevations like for like.
- KS moves to approve the plans shown with the addition of replacing shingles on the South and West elevations like for like. JJ 2nds. Vote in favor was unanimous. Two monitors – KS and TK. The plans are signed.

A. Other Business

1. Handy House Preservation Agreement with the WHC. See **attachment D**.

- When proposed, WHC felt that the half size model construction is an excellent teaching tool. However, the model was not taken down for the winter, as planned, and is being used as a more long-term structure with masonry and possibly furniture in the future. If it were to remain long term, it is in an inappropriate location on the property. WHC agrees to send the letter to Jenny O'Neill as a reminder of our written agreement after an informal call and a request to appear at our next meeting. JL motions, TK 2nds. Vote in favor was unanimous.

2. WHC received a demolition request for the barn at 81 Howland Ave., however the barn building is not on our historic inventory (the main house is). This brings up the question that should the WHC look into historic outbuildings that could be put onto the historic inventory?

3. Framingham House Tour on May 15 is showing a 1696 house that could be educational for WHC members.

4. Identify remarkable 3+/- historical renovation projects and write a letter to the owners thanking them for their historic efforts. Have a press release or write an article with the photos for the local paper. GM (chair) and JL volunteer.

JJ motions to adjourn, BK 2nds. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm. The next meeting is June 6th, 2016 at 6:00.

Attachments: A: WHC Treasurer's Report as of 4.27.16
 B: Head Garage, Community Preservation Act Funding 4.19.16
 C: CPC new requirements/assistance relevant to WHC
 D: Letter to the Director of Westport Historical Society

Draft Prepared by Barrett Allen 5-2-16
Minutes accepted by WHC 6-6-16