

MINUTES OF WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING ON APRIL 9, 2014

Present: members David Wright, Chairman; Larry McNally, Vice-Chairman; Tad Heuer; Dwight Lueth; Helen Robertson; Kathy Venne; advisory members Maureen Cary; Joshua Dorin; Joel Slocum; Arvid von Taube

1. Wright called the meeting to order at 7:08pm in the Arnold Room at the Wellesley Free Library.
2. Minutes: It was **moved** by Robertson, **seconded** by Lueth, and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes as amended for the meetings of January 7, 2014, February 4, 2014, March 4, 2014, and March 26, 2014.
3. Date Plaque Program: Slocum and Dorin provided an update on the actions of the WHC plaque subcommittee. After discussion among the WHC members, it was **moved** by Lueth, **seconded** by Heuer, and **passed 5-1** to approve the following statement:

MOVED that the Wellesley Historical Commission initiate a five-year program effective immediately to make available to homeowners uniform date marker plaques to recognize houses built prior to and including 1914, the program thereafter extending annually to 100-year-old houses built before 1919. Verification of the dates of construction will be undertaken by the Commission.

After discussion about how to implement the plaque program, it was **moved** by Heuer, **seconded** by Lueth, and **passed unanimously** to approve the following statement:

MOVED that the Commission authorize the creation and installation of plaques for qualifying structures on Abbott Road, and authorize the collection of funds from Abbott Road owners for such plaques, and FURTHER MOVED that the Plaque Subcommittee meet to develop a plan for implementation of the new plaque policy, including but not limited to publicization of the new policy and engaging the Planning Department to assist with outreach to eligible owners, and FURTHER MOVED that the Commission develop a proposal for submission to the Community Preservation Committee requesting funds to assist eligible owners in defraying the costs of said plaques.

4. CPC: Heuer provided an update on the favorable response of CPC members to several proposed WHC projects that Heuer discussed at the most recent CPC meeting. No action was taken by the WHC beyond authorizing the draft of a CPC proposal as included in the above motion.
5. Sprague School Roof: Wright provided an update on the Town's pending decision to replace the Sprague School Roof with slate or asphalt shingles. No action was needed by the WHC.
6. Fuller Brook Park Restoration: Wright provided an update on the favorable action at Town Meeting to approve the request for funding for the Fuller Brook Park restoration. No action was needed by the WHC.
7. Proposed Single Building Historic Districts: Robertson provided an update on the upcoming Town Meeting Article regarding the proposed establishment of SBHDs at 26 Elmwood Road and 126 Woodlawn Avenue. No action was needed by the WHC.

8. Elementary School Buildings: Dorin provided an update on the response of the School Facilities Committee to the letter sent by the WHC. No action was needed by the WHC.
9. Wellesley Inn Site/Beebe House: Robertson informed the WHC that there has been no news regarding the acquisition of plans for the reconstructed Beebe House. It was **moved** by McNally, **seconded** by Heuer, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Wright to draft and send a letter to Jordan Warshaw that requests copies of architectural plans for the reconstructed Beebe House.
10. Wellesley Hills Branch Library Restoration: Robertson provided an update on the nearing completion of the Hills Branch Library restoration. No action was needed by the WHC.
11. WHC Website and Outreach: von Taube provided an update on the actions of the WHC website and outreach subcommittee, including the purchase of new domain names and server access. No action was needed by the WHC.
12. Alternate Membership: Wright led a brief discussion on the creation of alternate members of the WHC and urged that advisory members who are residents of Wellesley consider becoming alternate members.
13. It was **moved** by McNally, **seconded** by Lueth, and **passed unanimously** to adjourn the meeting at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Dorin