

MINUTES OF WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2015

Present: members Tad Heuer, Chairman; Lawrence McNally, Vice Chairman; Peter Fergusson; Kathy Venne; David Wright; alternate members Joel Slocum; Arvid von Taube; advisory member Joshua Dorin; guest and Town Counsel Tom Harrington

1. Heuer called the meeting to order at 7:07pm in the Great Hall at Wellesley Town Hall. Given the absence of two regular members, Heuer appointed Slocum and von Taube as substitute members in place of absent WHC members Dwight Lueth and Helen Robertson, respectively.
2. Citizen Speak: No citizens present chose to speak on matters not on the agenda.
3. Minutes: It was **moved** by Wright, **seconded** by Fergusson, and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes as amended of the meeting of February 10, 2015. It was then **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by McNally, and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes as amended of the meeting of March 4, 2015.
4. Town Counsel Presentation: Town Counsel Tom Harrington gave a presentation to WHC members on Open Meeting Law and the State Ethics Law. No action by the WHC was needed.
5. WHC Plaque Approvals: Dorin provided copies of research profiles for two houses: 41 Howe Street and 84 Crest Road. After discussion, it was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by Wright, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Dorin to send WHC plaque application materials to the homeowners of the aforementioned properties.
6. 135 Great Plain Avenue: Wright provided an update on scheduling a meeting between the Natural Resources Commission and members of the WHC to discuss the proposed subdivision of 135 Great Plain Avenue. After discussion, it was agreed that von Taube would contact NRC Director Brandon Schmitt to arrange such a meeting in the near future.
7. Cell Antenna Replacement: Heuer led a discussion regarding the proposed replacement of a T-Mobile cell antenna on the NRHP-listed Wellesley Village Congregational Church as described within a report submitted by EBI Consulting. After discussion, it was **moved** by McNally, **seconded** by Fergusson, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Heuer to send a letter to EBI Consulting detailing that after review, the WHC perceives no adverse effect of the proposed project on the historic structure because it is an interior modification and there are no changes to the exterior of the building.
8. Proposed Town Hall Renovations: Dorin led a discussion regarding a recent presentation at a Board of Selectmen meeting on proposed renovations to the NRHP-listed Wellesley Town Hall. After discussion, it was **moved** by Wright, **seconded** by Fergusson, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Dorin to begin drafting a Form B for Wellesley Town Hall. It was also agreed that the WHC would request a tour of the interior of the building this summer.
9. Annual Town Meeting Proposed Sign Bylaw Amendment: Heuer provided an update on the proposed amendment to the sign bylaw at the upcoming Annual Town Meeting that would create an exemption to the bylaw for plaques issued by the WHC. No action was needed by the WHC.
10. Cheever Property: Heuer informed members that the WHC letter regarding the proposed development of the Cheever Property was sent to Wellesley College officials. In addition, the WHC discussed scheduling a meeting between members of the WHC and the Hunnewell family. No action was needed by the WHC at this time.

11. North 40: The WHC discussed to which Town officials the WHC should send its letter regarding the historical assets of the North 40. It was then agreed that Heuer would immediately send the WHC letter to these recipients.
12. CPC: Heuer provided an update on CPC's approval of the application of the Trustees of the Wellesley Free Library for funding to hire a consultant to develop a repair plan for the south chimney wall of the NRHP-listed Wellesley Hills Branch Library. After discussion, it was **moved** by McNally, **seconded** by Wright, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Heuer to speak on behalf of the WHC in support of the Library Trustees' CPC application.
13. Plaque files: Heuer provided an update regarding the acquisition of WHC plaque-related files stored at the Wellesley Historical Society. After discussion, it was agreed that Heuer will continue to communicate with the Historical Society's curator, Kathleen Fahey, to obtain temporary custody of the files.
14. Development of Historic Building Inventory: Heuer notified the WHC that the speaking group of WHC members charged with initiating the development of an historic building inventory has yet to meet, but will do so in the near future.
15. 62 Wellesley Avenue: Heuer provided an update on 62 Wellesley Avenue. It was agreed that the WHC will discuss this matter in the near future.
16. Wellesley Veterans' Parade: McNally notified the WHC that the Wellesley Veterans' Parade is on May 17th. All WHC members are welcome to partake in the celebrations.
17. It was **moved** by Wright, **seconded** by Slocum, and **passed unanimously** to adjourn the meeting at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Dorin