MINUTES OF WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING ON DECEMBER 3, 2013

Present: members David Wright, Chairman; Larry McNally, Vice-Chairman; Peter Fergusson; Dwight Lueth; advisory members Maureen Cary; Joshua Dorin; Joel Slocum; Arvid Von Taube; guest Tad Heuer

- 1. Wright called the meeting to order at 7:10pm in the Arnold Room at the Wellesley Free Library.
- 2. Minutes: It was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by McNally, and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013 as amended.
- 3. WHC website and outreach: Von Taube and Dorin presented a case to the WHC that its website needs updating. Discussion then followed on possible updates and the logistics of implementing them. There was also discussion of how the WHC can improve its outreach within the town. It was decided to form a working group consisting of Cary, Dorin, Heuer, and Von Taube to come up with specific ideas for changes to the website as well as potential outreach efforts, both of which will be presented at the next WHC meeting. Von Taube will also contact Terry Connolly to inquire about the flexibility the WHC has in updating its webpage.
- 4. 62 Wellesley Avenue: Dorin provided a narrative on the history of 62 Wellesley Avenue, a house built in 1809 that is currently in poor condition. After discussion, it was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by Lueth, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Wright to draft and send a letter to the owners of 62 Wellesley Avenue requesting that they meet with the WHC at the house at their convenience. Dorin will also provide Wright with a document summarizing the history of the house.
- 5. Proposed Single Building Historic Districts: Dorin provided copies of a draft of the Form B for 26 Elmwood Road. Discussion followed over the content in the historical narrative. It was decided that Cary and Dorin would make the suggested changes to the Form B. Wright will also contact Helen Robertson regarding the progress of the Study Committee.
- 6. Cochituate Aqueduct land acquisition: Wright provided an update on the status of the Town's acquisition of a parcel of the Cochituate Aqueduct. At this time, there are no specific construction plans available at the Engineering Department. Wright will follow-up with the Massachusetts Historical Commission inquiring the progress of the MHC review.
- 7. Elementary school buildings: Wright provided copies of the draft of the letter from the WHC to the School Committee regarding the renovations (and possible replacement) of Hardy and Hunnewell Schools. It was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by McNally, and **passed unanimously** to approve the letter as amended and authorize Wright to send it to the School Committee.
- 8. CPC report: Lueth gave an update on two upcoming CPC meetings. It was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by McNally, and **passed unanimously** that upon his swearing-in, Heuer will replace Lueth as the WHC representative to CPC and that Wright will contact the chairman of CPC notifying him of the change.
- 9. Wellesley Inn site/Beebe House: Wright gave notice that all WHC members are invited to the groundbreaking of the Wellesley Inn site on December 4th. Wright will also contact Helen Robertson regarding the progress of discussing with Jordan Warshaw the idea of a cornerstone within the reconstructed Beebe House.
- 10. Hills Branch Library restoration: Lueth gave an update on the status of the restoration of the Hills Branch Library. No action was taken at this time.
- 11. Kepes panels: Slocum gave an update on plans to reuse the Kepes panels. No action was taken at this time.
- 12. It was **moved** by McNally, **seconded** by Fergusson, and **passed unanimously** to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm.

Respectfully submitted, Joshua Dorin