

DRAFT OF MINUTES OF WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2013

Present: members David Wright, Chairman; Helen Robertson; Peter Fergusson; Dwight Lueth; advisory members Terry Catchpole; Joshua Dorin; Joel Slocum

1. Minutes: **moved** to accept as amended by Fergusson; **seconded** by Robertson; **passed unanimously**.
2. Use of audio recorder during meeting: **moved** to accept by Fergusson; **seconded** by Robertson; **passed unanimously**.
3. Beebe House WHC Report: Wright provided copies of a detailed report on the architecture of the Beebe House written by Robertson. After brief discussion, it was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by Lueth, and **passed unanimously** to form a sub-committee consisting of Wright, Robertson, and Catchpole to edit the report. The Commission also began editing the draft of its Historical Assessment of the Beebe House, but did not take any action on finalizing the document.
4. Morse's Pond Waste Weir (Cochituate Aqueduct): Selectwoman Gig Babson presented a plan for the Town to file legislation to purchase a section of the Cochituate Aqueduct in Wellesley. Included in the purchase would be the waste weir and gatehouse adjacent to Morse's Pond, which the Town would consider dismantling and constructing a footbridge in its place. Fergusson pointed out that we are one town of many participating in this NRHP listing in this water system. The Commission and Selectwoman Babson then discussed further details about the legislation and the Town's plan, the historical and educational value of the gatehouse and weir, as well as the condition of the structure. Fergusson pointed out that we are one town of many participating in this NHRP listing in this water system. The Commission agreed that Wright should draft a letter to the Selectmen urging that language referring to demolition of the waste weir and gatehouse not be included in the request for special legislation.
5. Wellesley Hills Library Chimney Restoration: Lueth gave a detailed report on the history of the chimney restoration project. There was discussion on whether the fireplace needed to be restored to working order. No action was taken by the Commission at this time.
6. Beebe House Developer's Presentation: New owner and developer of the Wellesley Inn site, Jordan Warshaw, presented his proposed plans for the project. Warshaw briefly answered questions from the Commission about his plans and whether at least part of the Beebe House could remain on site.
7. Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua Dorin