

## MINUTES OF WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

Present: members Arvid von Taube, Chair; Lawrence McNally, Vice Chairman; Grant Brown, Peter Fergusson, Helen Robertson, Rise Shepsle; alternate members Robert Carley, Dwight Lueth, Emily Maitin, Michael Racette, Joel Slocum; advisory member: Joshua Dorin; Planning Board liaison to WHC Catherine Johnson

1. von Taube called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Great Hall, Wellesley Town Hall.
2. Citizen Speak: None
3. Minutes: It was **moved** by Slocum, **seconded** by McNally, and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes as amended of the WHC meeting of August 9, 2016.
4. New Business: None
5. CPC Protects: Maitin, WHC representative to CPC, led a discussion on possible projects for which the WHC could apply for CPC funding. In addition, she informed the WHC that there is still \$30,000 in CPC funds earmarked for the WHC to start following through on the recommendations made with the pre-survey, a document completed by Kathy Broomer for the WHC in 2009-10. It was agreed that the WHC will reach out to those involved with the pre-survey to determine how best to proceed.
6. House Plaque Approvals: Dorin provided copies of research profiles for 3 properties: 112 Crest Road, 22 Colburn Road, and 309 Walnut Street. After discussion, it was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by Robertson, and **passed unanimously** to authorize Dorin to send WHC plaque application materials to the homeowners of all three residences.
7. Town Hall and Hills Branch Library Envelope Studies: Dorin summarized the McGinley Kalsow & Associates presentation given at a recent Board of Selectmen meeting that explained the physical conditions of the exteriors of the NRHP-listed Town Hall and Hills Branch Library buildings and the necessary repair work. One of the issues raised by MKA was the whether the cost of the repairs would trigger full or partial ADA compliance of each building. The WHC will continue to monitor these projects.
8. HHU MPC Committee: Dorin provided an update on the recent meetings of the HHU Master Planning Committee. Specifically, the committee is still considering all possible options relating to Hardy, Hunnewell, and Upham Elementary Schools: renovating the existing buildings, demolishing part or all of them, and/or closing the school(s). The committee has asked that the WHC attend a meeting soon in order to explain the historic significance of the original Hardy and Hunnewell school buildings as well as discuss the WHC findings on the effects of teardowns on enrollment. Von Taube agreed to communicate with the HHU committee co-chairs to schedule a date for the WHC to present to the full committee.
9. Bylaw Subcommittee Update: The Bylaw Subcommittee led a discussion on its recent presentation to the Planning Board as well as the three upcoming public forums. It also discussed the scheduling of presentations to the Advisory Committee and Sustainable Wellesley and a meeting(s) with Town Counsel. No action was needed by the WHC.
10. Wellesley Hills Station: von Taube informed the WHC that the plaque for the Caffé Nero coffee shop in the historic Wellesley Hills station has been manufactured and is in his possession. Next steps include working with the tenant and owner to select a location for the plaque as well as conveying digital copies of old photographs of the station that will be printed and displayed by Caffé Nero.

11. 135 Great Plain Avenue: von Taube informed the WHC that he will soon draft a Memorandum of Understanding between the WHC, Board of Selectmen, and DPW in order to prevent destruction of the historic stone gates at 135 Great Plain Avenue either during the development of the subdivision or at any point in time post-construction.
12. House Plaque Research Contract: Dorin submitted a new batch of research for the WHC plaque program totaling 187 properties (77 completed under contract and 110 completed prior to the start of the contract) and an invoice for \$7700. The previously submitted research has been uploaded to the WHC's website.
13. Beebe Plaque: Lueth indicated that the text for the plaque to be installed at the former site of the historic Beebe House is finalized and the next step is putting together a mockup. The WHC will continue to reach out to Belclare developer Jordan Warshaw to discuss moving this forward.
14. Wellesley Square Wayfinding and Branding: Brown reported that the Wellesley Square Wayfinding and Branding Project Committee met on August 26<sup>th</sup>, where it selected two icons to be used in signs and markage in the Wellesley Square and Wellesley Hills Square commercial districts, respectively: Wellesley Town Hall and the Sprague Memorial Clock Tower. The initial colors proposed by the committee were green and blue. No action was needed by the WHC.
15. Fuller Brook Committee: Carley reported on the recent meeting of the Fuller Brook Park Coordinating Committee, as the final efforts are made to complete the restoration of the NRHP-listed parkway. No action was needed by the WHC.
16. Adjourn: It was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by Maitin, and **passed unanimously** to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rise Shepsle