

MINUTES OF WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2016

Present: members Tad Heuer, Chairman; Lawrence McNally, Vice Chairman; Grant Brown; Peter Fergusson; Rise Shepsle; Arvid von Taube; alternate members Robert Carley; Dwight Lueth; Emily Maitin; Michael Racette; Joel Slocum; Diogo Teixeira; David Wright; advisory member Joshua Dorin

1. McNally called the meeting to order at 7:06pm in the Great Hall at Wellesley Town Hall. Given the absence of three full members, McNally designated Maitin, Slocum, and Wright in place of Fergusson, Heuer, and Helen Robertson, respectively. At 7:08pm, upon the arrival of Fergusson, McNally designated Fergusson in place of Maitin. At 8:07pm, upon the arrival of Heuer, McNally appointed Heuer in place of Slocum.
2. Citizen Speak: No citizens present chose to speak on matters not on the agenda.
3. Minutes: It was **moved** by Slocum, **seconded** by Wright, and **passed unanimously** to approve the minutes as amended of the WHC meeting of February 8, 2016.
4. WHC Bylaw Subcommittee Progress Report: Dorin led a discussion on the recent work of the WHC Bylaw Subcommittee. Documents provided to WHC members were (i) a working draft of the Historic Preservation Demolition Review Bylaw, (ii) a set of Frequently Asked Questions for the Historic Preservation Demolition Review Bylaw, and (iii) notes summarizing a recent Newton Historical Commission meeting that was attended by one member of the subcommittee. The subcommittee will continue to work over the next month to complete edits to the draft bylaw and develop the necessary supporting materials.
5. Publicity and Outreach: The WHC discussed several ideas to promote awareness of historic preservation within the community, including publishing articles on neighborhood conservation districts, the increasing teardown trend in Wellesley, and the WHC plaque program. The WHC agreed to continue this discussion at an upcoming meeting.
6. CPC Plaque Research RFP: The WHC opened and examined all bids received for the WHC Plaque Research RFP. The only bid received was from Joshua Dorin. Upon the advice of Town Counsel, all WHC members signed disclosure forms for an appearance of a conflict of interest because the bidder is an Advisory Member of the WHC. Copies of the Non-Price Proposal were distributed and examined by the WHC. After discussion, it was **moved** by Fergusson, **seconded** by Wright, and **passed unanimously** that the WHC believes this proposal should be accepted contingent on the Price-Proposal as 5 of the 7 proposal grading categories were found to be highly advantageous while the other 2 categories were found to be advantageous. Copies of the Price Proposal were then distributed and examined by the WHC. After discussion, it was **moved** by McNally, **seconded** by Fergusson, and **passed unanimously** to reject the bid, as it is non-responsive to the proposal and re-advertise the RFP requesting how much work of the WHC plaque research can be completed for \$45,000.
7. WHC Representation on Unified Plan and Town Hall Study Committees: Heuer informed the WHC that the Town is seeking representatives from the WHC for two committees: the Unified Plan Steering Committee and the Town Hall Envelope Study Committee. It was agreed that Teixeira and Racette would be nominated for the Unified Plan Steering Committee and Town Hall Envelope Study Committee, respectively.
8. Historic Building Inventory RFP: Heuer is developing a Request For Quotation to begin the second phase of the historic building inventory, a project which already has CPC funds allocated for its completion.

9. Historical Society Collaboration Update: Maitin updated the WHC on the recent event held at the Wellesley Free Library where the WHC and the Wellesley Historical Society talked to residents about how to research their homes. Through this event, the WHC was able to get five additional plaque requests.
10. 135 Great Plain Avenue: Dorin summarized the hearing for the proposed 135 Great Plain Avenue subdivision at the Planning Board meeting on March 7th. A revised plan was presented in which the new roadway was reduced in width by roughly 15 feet and curves by 2 degrees more. The hearing was continued to the mid-to-late April Planning Board meeting.
11. Route 9/Kingsbury Street: Heuer updated the WHC on the revised proposal for the reconstruction of Route 9 at Kingsbury Street, which unlike the earlier plan, preserves much of the historic grassy median. No action was needed by the WHC.
12. Beebe House/Wellesley Inn Plaques: Wright informed the WHC that he has not heard back from Belclare developer Jordan Warshaw about the plaque to be installed at the former site of the Beebe House. He also sent a letter to Warshaw with no response, inquiring whether shutters would be installed on the new Beebe Cottage.
13. Wellesley Hills Railroad Station: von Taube provided an update on the Design Review Board meeting of February 24th that reviewed the exterior modifications to the historic Wellesley Hills Railroad Station. He will continue to communicate with the project manager to try to incorporate the recommended changes made by the WHC into the redesign.
14. Next Meeting: The next WHC meeting will be on April 14th at a location to be determined.
15. Adjourn: It was **moved** by von Taube, **seconded** by Brown and **passed unanimously** to adjourn the meeting at 9:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Dorin