



Chelmsford Historical Commission (CHC)

April 12, 2022 Draft Meeting Minutes

Present: Deb Taverna - Chairman, Fred Merriam, Linda Prescott, Jeff Merrill(left at 7:55 P.M.), and Kelly Daniell

Ms. Taverna called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Welcome to New Member: The Commission welcomed new member Kelly Daniell. Ms. Daniell introduced herself and talked about her background working with historic organizations.

Public Comment: Fred Faust representing Americal for 1-5 Billerica Road attended the meeting. He brought a copy of the Perpetual Restriction that will be attached to the deed for the Fiske House. Ms. Prescott reminded everyone that the restriction must be sent to Mass Historic. This will be on the Planning Board agenda tomorrow night. Ms. Prescott moved to approve the restriction and Mr. Merriam seconded. Vote to accept was unanimous. Mr. Faust asked that the Historical Commission send a letter to the Planning Board that this was approved by the Historical Commission.

Pre-Demolition Requests:

117 Gorham Street was not represented.

203 Boston Road: Bob McNamara, the owner, attended the meeting. The original plan was to restore the building and correct several additions added over the years. There are very low ceilings on the first floor. Mr. McNamara stated that the building should be demolished after removing the interior walls and looking at the framing. Ms. Taverna had discussed this with the Building Commissioner, Jose Negrón, and he stated that the building would have to be built up to code in the interior, but that the building was not in danger of falling or being a public safety issue. Mr. McNamara bought this building as his business, Chelmsford Lumber, has an easement for his driveway. The planned use is office space – the public will not be in the building. Mr. McNamara offered a tour of the building and the date of April 22nd at 12:30 was agreed upon. He did indicate that he would replicate the building if the demolition is approved.

House Signs, National Register Signs, District House Signs: Mr. Merrill has a request for a sign at 160 Middlesex Street. Ms. Prescott will need some time to research.

Historic District Updates: There is an ongoing issue with unscreened mechanics on the roof.

Community Preservation Updates: None.

Cub Scout Tour of Forefathers Burying Ground: No report.

Budget: No change.

Calls, emails and letters: Mobile home that burned was demolished .

Local Certified Government : Ms. Prescott asked all members to give her a resume.

Historic Preservation: No discussion at this meeting.

4 Bartlett Street Inventory: Ms. Prescott and Mr. Merriam advised that changes were needed. Changes will need to be filed with Mass Historic.

Election of Officers: Tabled to next meeting as all members were not in attendance.

Minute Approval: March minutes were approved with corrections. Ms. Prescott moved and Mr. Merriam seconded as amended. Approved unanimously.

Set agenda for May 10, 2022 Meeting: Continued Discussion on 203 Boston Road and Election of Officers. Remove Community Preservation and Tour.

MOTION: Ms. Prescott moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Merriam and so voted. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

All documents referred to herein are on file with the CHC.

Deb Taverna

