



MENDON
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

Dan Byer
Constance Beal
Kathleen Schofield
Kristina Campbell
Karen Meade
Debra Broe
historical@mendonma.gov

MEETING DATE	January 25, 2024 7pm
LOCATION	Hybrid Taft Public Library
STATUS	4/29/24

PRESENT: Dan Byer, Kathy Schofield, Kristina Campbell, Karen Meade, Debra Broe, Andrew Jenrich, Leesa Michael, Gabrielle Porciello and additional representatives from the Library Trustees. The members of the Mendon Select Board (Mike Merolli, Mike Goddard, Brendan Chenelle, Alejna Brugos, and Jason Kuter. Lawney Tinio and Building Inspector .John Ericson.

Call to Order - Meeting opened 7:05pm Open Public Hearing for 29 North Ave Detached Garage “Carriage House”

- The Commission previously met with representatives from the Taft Public Library to discuss the detached garage building, which is called the carriage house, and its future.
- Library members discussed the poor condition of the carriage house, which was being used for storage. They emptied it out and secured it due to safety concerns.

The Commission presented the historic background of the Carriage House and understood the safety issue it poses. They discussed the possibility of repurposing the building or salvaging materials before demolishing it. The building inspector suggested there was nothing suitable for salvage.

Dan made a motion that the Carriage House located at 29 North Ave. which does meet the standards for historical significance in its current condition is not preferably preserved and the permit for the demolition can be issued. Kathy seconded the motion all members voted in favor of the motion. Kathy will follow up with the abutter who was concerned with the demolition.

Kathy accepted a motion to close the hearing by Dan. Debra seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Public Hearing 35 Cape Road

Notice is hereby given under the Town of Mendon General Bylaws Chapter XXXIII Sec. 4.2, Demolition Delay, of public hearing to consider the demolition of a detached garage structure located at 29 NORTH AVE, MENDON, MA. The hearing is scheduled for Jan. 25th, 2024, at 7pm to take place at the Art Homes Community Room at the Taft Public Library.

Dan Byer made a motion to open the hearing for 35 Cape Road. Kathy seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Mr. Tinio joined the table as representative and property owner. Mr. Tinio offered to have the group go through the building again prior to demolition. Kathy asked if there might be a chance to salvage a few chestnut beams to do repair work on the Olney Cook Shop. Mr. Tinio noted we could talk further about the possibility of working together on that.

Dan summarized the letter from an abutter who supports the demolition and would like to see the property used for commercial and designed to fit in the neighborhood. Mr. Tinio remarked that he is working with feedback from the abutting neighbors.

Dan made a motion to close the hearing. Kathy seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Dan made a motion



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that although the structure is historically significant it is not preferably preserved in its current condition. The commission will not impose a delay and the permit is approved. Kathy Seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Review Meeting Minutes 7/24/23 ,8/2/23, 9/5/23, 1/4/24

Karen made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Kristina seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Review 2023 Annual Report

Kathy moved to approve the annual report as amended to correct spelling errors and the missing numbers in the inventory hearing. Karen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Update 153 Hartford Ave East Hearing

The property was sold. If the new owner is interested in removing the property from the Historic Inventory Resource List they would be eligible to be included in the 2025 Hearing.

Discussion Records Room

Dan noted MHC signed off on the bid packet for the Seth Hastings Law Office and we are ready to post on the central register. It will be a tight schedule to complete the project in time to receive the grant money. At this point the most that can be achieved is to stabilize the foundation and remedy the buildings water issues.

Other Items

Dan noted future projects may include resuming the replacement windows for the Town Hall.

Kristine was appointed to the Historic District Commission. The next meeting will be February 26, 2024.

Kathy moved to adjourn. Kristine seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.