



**MENDON
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

20 Main Street
Mendon, MA 01756
historical@mendon.gov

Wayne Wagner, Chairman
Jane Lowell
Kathleen Schofield
Ellen Wagner
Tony Willoughby

Meeting Date	April 2, 2013
Location	Mendon Town Hall
Status	Approved May 14, 2013

Present

Wayne Wagner, Kathy Schofield, Jane Lowell, Ellen Wagner, Tony Willoughby

7:04 Call to Order

Chairman Wagner called the meeting to order.

7:04 Acceptance of Previous Minutes

J. Lowell made a motion to accept the minutes of February 5, 2013. The motion was seconded by E. Wagner and passed unanimously.

E. Wagner made a motion to accept the minutes of March 5, 2013. The motion was seconded by J. Lowell and passed unanimously.

7:06 Demolition Application: 25-27 Hastings Street

The Building Department received a demolition permit application for 25-27 Hastings Street. The applicant included a letter to the Historical Commission. The Commission discussed the application and the property. J. Lowell pointed out that the house is in the Local Center Historic District and on the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Lowell explained that she provided the applicant with information covering tax abatements and discount loans that would be available if the house was preserved. It is estimated that the house was built between 1905 and 1915. The house is of the craftsman style which prompted K. Schofield to ask how many such houses are left in Mendon. J. Lowell responded "two".

Chairman Wagner pointed out that the house could be considered historically significant because it is over 75 years old (criteria 1) and because of its character (criteria 4). K. Schofield agreed and pointed out that the house sits on one of the town's main streets.

At 7:28 J. Lowell made the following motion:

I move that the Historic Commission declares the building located at 25-27 Hastings Street is not historically significant as defined by the demolition delay by-law.

The motion was seconded by K. Schofield. K. Schofield, W. Wagner, T. Willoughby and J. Lowell voted yes. E. Wagner abstained.

7:36: Freedom's Way Speaker

J. Lowell explained that she attended a Freedom's Way seminar with speaker Alan S. Manoian (Principal, About Place Partners). He discussed preservation from the point that it makes good business sense. Ms. Lowell would like to have Mr. Manoian speak in Mendon. K. Schofield thought the Master Planning Committee would be interested. Chairman Wagner thought the Planning Board should be included and CPC funds may be available.

Action Item ⇒ K. Schofield to discuss at the next Master Planning Committee meeting.

7:50: Cemetery Restoration Grants

J. Lowell has been researching grants for restoring cemeteries. She presented nine (9) grants to the Commission (attached).

8:13: Cook Artisan Shop Landscaping

K. Schofield has been developing a plan for the landscaping around the shop. She used the plan presented by Mr. Swift as a starting point. She believes it's a very good start, but that it includes too many flowers (which aren't historically accurate). She taken measurements and will continue to work on the plan.

Action Item ⇒ W. Wagner to investigate the deed to the shop and establish boundaries.

Some other aspects of the landscaping were discussed. Ms. Schofield believes a sign could be boxed around the electrical box to improve it's appearance, perhaps with a seating area. She would also like a visual screen to block the view of the house behind. W. Wagner believes there should be a handrail for the stone steps.

8:44: 34 George Street

J. Lowell suggested that an architect be hired to evaluate if 34 George can/should be saved.

Action Item ⇒ W. Wagner to discuss this with CPC Chair Anne Mazar.

8:55 Motion to Adjourn

J. Lowell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by E. Wagner. The motion passed unanimously.