

Hadley Historical Commission Minutes for May 23, 2017 Compiled by Jeffrey Mish

Members Present: Jeffrey Mish, Kate Kentfield, Marjorie Pratt Townsend, Tom McGee, Ginger Goldsbury

Members Absent: Carolyn Holstein, Margaret Freeman

Guests: Michael Pereira, Alan Weinberg

Meeting came to order at 7:00 on a motion from Kentfield, Goldsbury seconded

April 25 minutes could not be approved due to an absence of members who were present at each respective meeting.

Dunkin' Donuts

Michael Pereira presented his site-plan for a new Dunkin' Donuts to be located at the current site of the Donut Man. The building's exterior will remain the same, with the exception of new windows and a new side door. The sign on the side of the building will have goose neck lighting while the roadside sign along Russell Street remains internally illuminated.

Although the Planning Board told Pereira that he could retain the internally illuminated sign from the previous owner, several Commission members felt that the sign should be externally illuminated, with Tom McGee requesting that Pereira bring the Commission's concerns to Corporate. McGee also initiated a vote whereby it was decided that Pereira's site-plan review form should include a note about the aforementioned stipulation, citing that the sign is located within an historic overlay district.

Hooker School Workgroup

Library Trustee, Alan Weinberg, came to discuss the Hooker School Workgroup, a task force conceived at the March 28, 2017 meeting between the Historical Commission and Library Trustees. Weinberg and Commission member, Marjorie Pratt Townsend, are the representatives from their respective boards. Weinberg presented the Commission a detailed preservation plan for Hooker School, which will potentially be knocked down to build a new library if the grant the Trustees applied for is awarded. The Workgroup's plan details stages of progress leading to the creation of an historic archive of Hooker School, whether a film, exhibit, or report by March 2018.

Russell School

After the April 25th meeting, Carolyn Holstein contacted Stacia Caplanson of Preservation Massachusetts about attending a Historical Commission meeting to discuss local historic districts. Caplanson could not attend the May or June meeting, thus at this meeting (May 23) it was decided that it is not imperative that the Commission meet with Caplanson, but instead, can

ask her questions via E-Mail as they arise. Ginger Goldsbury is beginning this process and identified several steps needed to create a local historic district/preserve Russell School, beginning with a search for the North Hadley Hall preservation restriction to use as a guideline for Russell School. The Commission should also identify which buildings it would like to include in the local historic district and then contact a professional preservationist to take inventory and write up the necessary paperwork to establish the local historic district.

Membership

Pratt Townsend reported that the ad for new members will appear in the summer issue of the Hadley Council on Aging newsletter. It was also suggested that an ad could be placed on TV-5 or in the library.

Kate Kentfield has stepped down as Co-Chair to attend graduate school at Smith College, but will remain as an alternate.

Jeffrey Mish is now Chairman; he retains his duties as Scribe.

Miscellaneous

Goldsbury reported that the building walk-throughs she conducted with Gary Berg and Marlo Warner found no evidence of damage. The walk-throughs were prompted by the construction work on Russell Street during the summer of 2016.

Goldsbury filled in for Margaret Freeman at the CPA meeting and requested that a member of the Commission join the CPA.

Tom McGee suggested that the Commission pursue the preservation of land on South Maple Street, which is slated for a solar farm, as a historic landscape.

McGee made a motion to adjourn at 9:00, Goldsbury seconded.