

HARTFORD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, August 17, 2016
Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Susanne Walker Abetti, Roy Black, Robin Adair Logan and chair Jonathan Schechtman.
Staff Present: Town Planner Matt Osborn.
Others Present: Selectboard Liaison Dennis Brown.

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held in Meeting Room 2, Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction on Wednesday, August 17, 2016. Chair Jonathan Schechtman called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

1. Additions/Changes to the Agenda: Jonathan Schechtman asked if there are any additions to the agenda. There were none.
2. Minutes of the July 20, 2016 HHPC Meeting: Jonathan Schechtman asked if there are any corrections to the Minutes of July 20th. Susanne Walker Abetti noted a correction. Roy Black made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 20th with the noted correction. The motion was seconded by Susanne Walker Abetti and approved.
3. Advent Camp Meeting Grounds Historic District Nomination: Matt Osborn reported that the community meeting at the Advent Camp Meeting Grounds was held on July 20th and there was a good turnout. Jonathan Schechtman stated that Architectural Historian Brian Knight did an excellent job. The HHPC agreed. Matt noted that Brian made another presentation at the Advent Camp on August 12th. Matt noted that Brian has made contacts with two long-time Advent Camp members who have historical information on the Camp. Brian will be submitting a revised draft on Monday, August 22nd. Matt stated that we have a short turnaround time to finish the review and get comments back to Brian. The final draft and closeout of the grant needs to occur by August 31st. Matt noted that he will forward the draft to the HHPC as soon as he receives it. He requested that the HHPC get comments back to him by August 26th.
4. White River Junction Historic District Nomination Update: Matt Osborn reported that the HHPC needs to make a decision on selection of a consultant for the update WRJ Historic District Nomination. He noted that two proposals were submitted; one from architectural historian Paula Sagerman who did four historic district nominations in Hartford and Architectural Historian Brian Knight who is currently working on the Advent Meeting Grounds Historic District Nomination. There was discussion of the proposals and consultant's qualifications. It was agreed to conduct interviews of the consultants at the September 21st meeting. Matt agreed to make arrangements.
5. HHPC Budget: Matt Osborn presented the current fiscal year 16/17 HHPC Budget:

• Travel & Meetings	\$200
• Advertising	\$180
• <u>Grants & Appropriations</u>	<u>\$2,200</u>
• Total	\$2,580

Jonathan Schechtman noted that the HHPC has done a great deal for the Town leveraging grant funds (approximately \$140,000 since 1993). He expressed concern that level funding year after year has an impact on the Town's historic preservation efforts. Susanne Walker Abetti noted that we need to replace a historic district sign in Wilder. Matt Osborn noted that we also need a historic district sign for the Terraces Historic District as well. The two signs would cost \$800. Jonathan suggested including the \$800 in the budget and adding \$200 to add to the local match for CLG grants. Jonathan made a motion to propose the following budget:

- Travel & Meetings \$200
- Advertising \$180
- Grants & Appropriations \$3,300
- Total \$3,680

The motion was seconded by Susanne Walker Abetti and approved by a 4 to 0 vote.

6. Sykes Avenue Drive-In Sign: Matt Osborn reported that he plans to discuss the sign with Devin Colman of the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.
7. Nott's West Hartford Barn: Matt Osborn reported that Nott's Excavation contacted him about their interest in removing a deteriorated agricultural building on their West Hartford property in order to expand their business. Matt conducted a site visit and took photographs. The Commission reviewed the photographs and discussed the condition of the building. Robin Adair Logan stated that she would like to visit the barn and pry off some inside boards to view what is underneath. The Commission thanked Robin Adair for looking at the building. Matt stated that he will contact Raymond Nott regarding the site visit.
8. Train Wreck Historic Marker: Matt Osborn reported that he received a request from Devin Colman of the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation to photograph the historic marker on Route 14 in West Hartford since other recently installed historic markers have experienced peeling paint. Matt presented the photographs showing peeling paint. Since there is a warranty on the historic markers, the State will make arrangements with the sign maker to repair it.
9. White River Junction Railroad Station Canopy: Matt Osborn reported that the State of Vermont was considering removal of the south canopy at the White River Junction Train Station since it is in poor condition. The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation determined that it no longer had historic integrity. However, Hartford resident and railroad historian Chuck Bohi was able to convince the state to retain and repair the canopy. No timeframe for repair has been given.
10. West Hartford Library: Jonathan Schechtman noted the recent article in the Valley News. Dennis Brown reported that the access panel was recently installed. Robin Adair Logan responded that she will talk to Town Manager Leo Pullar about the repair work.
11. Town Cemeteries: Dennis Brown reported that Arthur Peale offered to provide Dennis with a tour of the Town cemeteries. Robin Adair Logan expressed an interest in attending the tour as well.
12. Town Survey: Dennis Brown reported that a Town Survey Committee is putting together a survey. He asked the Commission if a question on historic preservation should be added. The Commission agreed to recommend adding a question on town cemeteries.
13. Next HHPC Meeting: Jonathan Schechtman noted that the next HHPC Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st at 4:30 p.m.
14. Adjournment: Roy Black made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Robin Adair Logan and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m. Jonathan thanked Dennis Brown for attending the meeting.