

**Historic District Commission
Minutes Meeting
June 19, 2018 @7:30 pm
Town Hall Second Floor Meeting Room**

Members Present:

Peter Benedict, Maureen Giattino, Laura Moore, George Wheatley, Elaine Chamberlain, Elena Beleno Carney, Greg Premru

Others Present:

Bob Collins, Janine Doucette LaValley, Medora King, Thaddeus King

Staff

Maureen Adema, Admin Asst.

Called to Order 7:32 pm

7:35 pm Groton School – Garages Update Bob Collins

Laura Moore recused herself from the discussion.

Bob Collins updated the Commission on the five Groton School garages being installed at the faculty residences. The garage designs and locations were approved in August 2017. Mr. Collins provided manufacturer's cut sheets for the windows, garage doors and entrance doors for each garage. The construct of the garages will start shortly at the Graves House and the Kapenas House. The construction at the Zahner House has been completed.

Comments and Questions

- **Are the Brosco windows for the garages? Yes**

7:45 pm Groton School – Roof and Window Repairs

Laura Moore recused herself from the discussion.

Bob Collins updated and informed the Commission on behalf of the Trustees of the Groton School that the repairs at the Hundred House, Brooks House and Schoolhouse are planned to start in the upcoming months. The repairs are replacement in kind; therefore a formal hearing is not required.

Hundred House – continuation of the repair and restoration work which has been ongoing since 2011.

Three chimneys are restored. Some of the brickwork will be replaced and the rotted trim will be replaced by custom mill work matching the original components.

Brooks House – Mr. Collins stated he was before the HDC, 30 years ago for a renovation on the Brooks House. Today the house is in need of a roof repair. The repair will incorporate slate and flashing matching the original materials. Additionally, rotted trim discovered during the work will be replaced by custom millwork matching the original components.

Schoolhouse – A Certificate of Appropriateness for an extensive restoration work and an addition was granted on August 20, 2013. The renovation did not include the roof and windows. The work being done this year will replace the drafty windows with new custom windows matching the originals. There will also be some repairs to the gutters on the Easterly, Southerly and Westerly facades.

Comments and Questions from the Commission

- **Are the replacement windows better windows? Yes, windows have improved since the last replacement.**

The commission thanked Mr. Collins for the updates.

30 Hollis Street Unit C - Certification of Appropriateness for sign - Janine Doucette LaValley

representing Medora and Thaddeus King, of 30 Hollis St. Unit C, owners of Birch on Hollis Hair Salon. Mr. and Mrs. King recently purchased the hair salon at 30 Hollis St., Unit C. They are renaming the salon to Birch on Hollis Hair Salon. The bank is requesting a sign outside the business as part of the loan approval process. Janine Doucette LaValley provided the Commission with a mockup of the proposed sign. The sign is proposed to be 21'x36', painted sign board with one raised dimensional letter "B" script and vinyl letters. The sign will be two sided, with a silver cap and silver trim. This side is a little smaller than the other sign at this location because of the bracket location.

Comments and Questions from the Commission

- Will the sign be lite? No, there are recess lights on the porch.
- Is the "B" raised? Yes

George Wheatley made a motion to grant a certificate of appropriateness for a sign at 30 Hollis Street, Unit C for Birch on Hollis, Hair Salon owners Medora and Thaddeus King as presented. Elaine Chamberlain seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Walk-in discussions

- Bob Collins stated his concern regarding the meeting room table and audience chairs in the Town Hall second floor meeting room being replaced because of the approved renovation of the room. He stated that the table was a gift from the Groton School, and could be 100 years old and that the chairs have been restored and belong to the room. He did not believe replacement of these furniture items was necessary, and it would be sad to see the furniture not used in the room. He said, he has likely sat in the chairs more than anyone and find them very comfortable. He asked the Commission, if they would be willing to write the Select Board a letter asking to keep both the table and chairs in the meeting room. After a brief discussion the Commission stated they agreed with Mr. Collin's thoughts and concerns and would write a letter to the Select Board.
- Janine Doucette LaValley stated her concern about the "light population" that has begun to appear in Groton and take over Main Street. She is of opinion that The Bank of America and the Groton Inn are lit up much more than necessary. She stated, she has been held to standards in regard to lighting that it appears others have not been. She worked on the Fire Station and the CVS building, where the lighting was taken into great consideration and restrictions complied to. She questioned the lights on Main Street that have had new bulbs installed from GELD. The new bulbs' "light" is brighter than the older bulbs "light". Although, she realizes that the new bulbs are energy efficient she stated shades or direction of install of the light/bulbs could bring Main Street back to an appropriate look.

Administrative Matters

Open Space and Recreation Plan –

Laura Moore will sit on the Advisory Board for the OSRP.

HDC Expiring Terms –

All members whose terms are expiring on June 30, 2018 have been contacted by the Town Manager's office. These members have each elected to be re-appointed to another 3 year term – July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Commission Re-organization-

George Wheatley nominated Peter Benedict for HDC Chair. Maureen Giattino seconded the nomination. Peter Benedict was unanimously voted to the position of HDC Chair.

George Wheatley nominated Maureen Giattino for HDC Vice-Chair. Laura Moore seconded the nomination. Maureen Giattino was unanimously voted to the position of HDC Vice-chair.

Administrative Matters

The Park Commission would like to meet with the HDC to discuss the installation of the Legion Hall Walkway. They would like to add a bench to the walkway in the memory of Michael Roberts. They would like to be on the agenda in September.

- *Maureen Adema will contact the Groton Inn to request a representative for the Forge & Vine restaurant attend a HDC meeting for site plan review.*
- *Maureen Adema will contact the Groton Inn about the brightness of the lights on the front porch.*
- *Commission will send a letter to the Select Board about the keeping of/replacement of audience chairs and meeting table in the Town Hall second floor meeting room.*

Peter Benedict made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg Premru seconded. Vote was unanimous

Adjourned at 8:43 PM

Next meeting August 21, 2018