

**TOWN OF GROTON**  
**173 Main Street**  
**Groton, MA 01450**  
**Historic Districts Commission**  
**Minutes Regular Meeting**  
**January 29, 2019**  
**Town Hall First Floor Meeting Room**

**Members Present:** Peter Benedict, Maureen Giattino, Elaine Chamberlain, Laura Moore, George Wheatley, Greg Premru

**Members Absent:** Elena Beleno Carney

**Other Present:** Vanessa Abraham, Library Director, Chris Giordano, Halsey Platt,

**Meeting Called to Order 7:30 PM**

**7:30 pm**

**Groton Public Library Project – Vanessa Abraham, Library Director**

Ms. Abraham addressed the Commission updating them on the Groton Library Project. She provided large photos of the current state of the building, grounds and roof of the Library. She explained that it has been determined that the entire roof should be replaced in order to have the best and full protection from water damage. Calculations from the National Park Service Preservation Brief states that if 20% of older slate roof is removed it is best to remove the whole roof. The 1893 original 125 years old slate roof and copper gutters and downspouts are actually in fair condition, best of all three roofs but the GRLA is recommending replacing all roofs. The replacement of all will create a cohesive roofing and drainage system.

The historic skylight will also be addressed. Preservation is of great importance. The goal is to keep as close to original as possible.

**HDC questions and comments**

*Will the gutters be replaced? Yes*

*Suggestion that the red copper gutters be copper to match and be in harmony with other gutters.*

*Please visit the HDC again when you have real materials and cut sheets for the project.*

*Will the snow slide off the slate?*

Ms. Abraham informed the Commission that the Library has an application submitted for FY2020 CPC funds. She requested that the HDC write a letter of support to the CPC stating support for the historic preservation of the 1893 library building.

**George Wheatley made a motion for the HDC to write a letter to the CPC in support of the Groton Library CPC application for the proposed Groton Library Project. Greg Premru seconded the motion. The motion passed 6 to 0.**

Maureen A. will write the letter and deliver it to the CPC, and send a copy to Vanessa.

**8:00 PM**

**5 Legion Road – Discussion Chris Giordano, owner and Halsey Platt – Platt Builders**

Owner Chris Giordano photos and building plans for the Commission to review. Mr. Giordano stated he proposed to add more usable footage to his property without increasing the footprint. The goal is to

bring all the pieces together. The plan showed that both sides match, but keep oddity. The flat roof will stay. The front door stays, trim board stays to keep division. The plans show a nice solution, for comfortable living, not an oversized addition.

### **HDC questions and comments**

*The "big house" should be more defined, dressed up with overhang, demonstrated this is the front of the house.*

*The lighting, windows, siding, shutters, roof shingle samples should be brought to the certificate of appropriateness meeting.*

*Is the roof coming off? Understand added expense but would be worth it.*

*Is chimney staying? Yes*

Mr. Platt informed the Commission that he will apply for a certificate of appropriateness for the proposed work at 5 Legion Road. Maureen A. informed him the next HDC meeting is February 26, 2019. The application would need to be submitted on or before February 6<sup>th</sup> to meet the hearing notice/abutter notices deadlines.

### **Acceptance of changes to Article 1 360-1**

**Peter Benedict, Chair, made a motion to accept the change of Board of Selectmen to Select Board in article 1 of the HDC rules and regulations due to the acceptance of the name change at the Fall Town Meeting. Laura Moore seconded the motion. 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained. Motion passed.**

### **Town Report Review**

The Commission read and reviewed the prepared 2019 Town Report. The Commissioners were pleased with the report and approved it for inclusion in the Annual Town Report.

### **Commissioner Updates**

Laura Moore informed the Commissioners that the OPRP scheduled a meeting inviting the Town to review and speak about the OPRP report. The meeting is on Thursday, January 31, 2019 at 7pm at the Groton Inn.

### **Admin. Update**

- The Commissioners received a copy of the Town Manager's Spring Town Meeting outline of deadlines/dates.
- Maureen A. asked if the HDC had lighting regulations of their own because of an inquiry it received. *The Commission stated that the Town Lighting By-laws are what they use. They do not have anything additional for the districts. Lighting and lights are approved when certificates of appropriateness are issued.*
- Starting working on a form letter for violation in the districts

### **Minutes**

**Laura Moore made a motion to accept minutes of December 18, 2018. Elaine Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.**

**Adjourned at 8:34 PM**

**Next Meeting February 26, 2019**