

Historic District Commission
Town Hall, Room 126
Meeting Minutes, 13 November 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:34 PM. Attending: David Honn (DH), Anita Rogers (AR), Ron Regan (RR), Fran Arsenault (FA), and John Benson (JB) Selectmen Representative. Maria Crowley (MC), and David Shoemaker (DS) absent.

7:34 pm **Citizen's questions** – DH brought up the email that DS sent concerning the location of the car charging system attached to his house. The proposed location to the right of the electric meter was too close to the gas meter and had to be moved to the left side of the electric meter. Consensus is that this is okay.

7:36 **Minutes for 10/23 and 11/7** approved unanimously.

7:40 **Project spreadsheet review:** AR gave an overview of the meeting with the 53 River St. Committee from November 7th.

7:45 **525 Mass Ave. 1830** – Laurie Cadigan present.
Replace the Acton Real Estate sign with a Barrett Sotheby's International Realty sign. Laurie presents the design of the sign used at multiple locations in other town historic districts. The sign is 18" high by 144" wide by 1 1/2" thick of Azek cellular PVC. The sign is blue with white lettering and clipped corners. The letters are raised. The sign will be mounted on stand-offs. DH – our preference is to have the background hand painted with a brush to leave brush strokes and give a more historic look versus spraying which gives a metal like finish. AR makes a motion: 18"x144"x1.5" hand painted blue background with raised white lettering, painted. Font size and scale per supplied art work. Sign attached on stand-offs. Finding – Mass Ave is the governing way. DH seconded, vote approved unanimously.

8:05 **43/45 School St. 1829** – Carolyn Reed of Habitat for Humanity present. H4H was planning on hooking up the house to natural gas, but due to the National Grid lockout the hookup wouldn't happen until next summer, so propane tanks will be installed. There will be two tanks installed on each side of the house. DH – they can be hidden behind bushes. AR – what about a small fence? DH – that may draw more attention. Carolyn also

noted that the tanks need to be accessible for deliveries. DH – the tanks should be painted a stone color to blend with the foundation, but we should still have some plantings. Carolyn said we usually close in the winter and then come back in the spring to finish up the landscaping and do plantings. DH – can we move the tank back from the edge of the house to allow for an evergreen to block it from the street? AR – probably should move it back 3 feet. The location can't be adjacent to doors or windows and it must be on a concrete pad. Carolyn – the utility room will be near the front (School St.) side of the building. FA – the stone wall between the front and back yard will provide some cover. We could add plantings along the top of the wall that will block the view from School St. AR – under the center line of the ridge of the roof, below the two bricked-in windows. DH – let them install the tanks and then come back to locate the plantings. AR – we don't want the location to be arbitrary. DH – lets vote pending a drawing that can be reviewed by DH or AR prior to installation. AR makes a motion – The installation of two 120 gallon propane tanks for each dwelling final location of pad and tanks to be submitted to HDC before installation. Painted tanks to blend with stone foundation. Screen with evergreen plants to be determined after installation in the Spring of 2018 before the end of April. Finding – due to CPC funds being used all sides of the structure are in purview of HDC. Finding – because of the unavailability of natural gas installation in a timely manner due to National Grid lockout, propane tanks are being installed. DH seconded, vote approved unanimously.

8:45 **Chair Update** – DS told DH that the fee schedule is not on the web site and the Clerk thus has difficulty determining appropriate fees; RR – I think it is part of the application pdf download in section 2 how to fill out an application form item 4. We will investigate.

8:50 Meeting adjourned.