



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

03/24/2011 AHDC Minutes

March 24, 2011
 Whittemore Robbins House

Final and Approved Minutes

Commissioners Present: D. Baldwin, S. Makowka, J. Nyberg, M. Penzenik,
 T. Smurzynski, J. Worden

Commissioners
 Not Present: B. Cohen, D. Levy, M. Logan

Guests: Ken and Brenda Kokubo, Anthony Sparandana

1. AHDC Meeting Opens
2. Appointment of alternative Commissioners to Mt. Gilboa/ Crescent Hill Historic District: S. Makowka, T. Smurzynski
3. Motion by D. Baldwin, seconded by S. Makowka, to approve minutes of December 16, 2010 meeting. Approved unanimously. Motion by S. Makowka, seconded by J. Nyberg, to table approval of minutes of February 24, 2011 meeting until next meeting. Approved unanimously.
4. Communications
 - a. S. Makowka reported that barn on Russell Street was torn down, as requested by Building Inspector, after notice to Commission.
 - b. S. Makowka reported that he had been asked to comment on a warrant article for replacing the driveway at the Senior center. Since it will be at grade, the Commission considers it out of our jurisdiction. The Commission requested that S. Makowka pass on to concerned parties its view that a driveway of brick would be historically most appropriate.
 - c. S. Makowka had received a call from a contractor asking about applying vinyl siding to 218 Pleasant Street. He advised the contractor that a hearing would be necessary, and that the application of vinyl siding to a house in an historic district had never been approved.
 - d. S. Makowka had received a request for further one year extensions of the two certificates of appropriateness for construction around 187 Lowell Street. He replied that a formal hearing would be required, and that it will be scheduled for the next meeting.
 - e. Arrangements were made to get public notices of hearings on 7 Avon Place and 187 Lowell Street into the Arlington Advocate (J. Worden), and notices to abutters (M. Penzenik), for the next meeting.
5. Formal Hearing re: 188-190 Westminster Avenue (Kokubo) re: exterior glazing on extension. A. Sparandana explained that house was built in 1972 and a 2002 renovation added a third floor and gave the house a more traditional look (Garrison colonial). It is presently a two-family and the renovation will make it a single family. J. Nyberg suggested adding a portico around the front door for design balance, to avoid a flat front. There will be no changes on the front or north sides of the house. M. Penzenik observed that new tall windows look very modern, suggested making them look more like traditional porch windows. A. Sparandana replied that he was trying to differentiate additional work. S. Makowka observed that the Commission looks for a historical look, and that was the basis for approval of the earlier renovation. M. Penzenik observed that the transoms on the back do not appear to line up with those on the side. She said that the traditional look of the house is being overwhelmed by the modern

addition. She was not concerned about the expanse of glass (for interior light), but would like to see substantial wood framing around the windows (not just clapboarding). S. Makowka suggested extending the hearing so that revised plans could be submitted, in which, for example, the new work could be harmonized with the old, as by making the addition look like an enclosed sleeping porch. The applicants agreed to continuing the hearing to a time up to May 16, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.