

Arlington Historical Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of
Tuesday, 1 April 2014
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:45 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Chairman, presiding, JoAnn Robinson and Commissioners Eric Stange, Patrick Guthrie, Pamela Meister and Dianne Schaefer.
2. Review of minutes:
3. Communications Received:
4. Reports of other Town Boards and Historical Organizations:
 - a. Arlington Preservation Fund (Guthrie)- Annual meeting to be scheduled.
 - b. Arlington Historical Society (Meister)- The Arlington Historical Society is in favor of the Preservation Act.
 - c. Old Schwamb Mill- The Mill will be on This Old House and will feature David Graf at work.
 - d. Arlington Historic Districts Commission- Nothing to report.
 - e. Tourism and Economic Development (Robinson)- Nothing to report.
5. Historical Commission FY 2013 Budget – Nothing to report.
6. Projects Proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:
 - a. 821 Massachusetts Avenue (Noyes RT) 10/03; modified 4/08 Duffy- Nothing to report.
 - b. Symmes Hospital (Town of Arlington) 6/04 Duffy – Nothing to report.
 - c. 6 Park Street (White) 12/09 Meister- Nothing to report.
 - d. 13 Winter Street 8/12 Guthrie- An open house was held on March 31, 2014. It was determined at this meeting that a monitor is no longer required for this property.
 - e. Whittemore Robbins House Cottage 6/13 Robinson - JoAnn Robinson will be calling Patti Brennan regarding the work at the Whittemore Robbins House.
 - f. 30 Franklin Street (Lever) 5/13 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
 - g. 41 Kensington Road 9/13 Guthrie- Garages not demolished yet.
 - h. 246 Park Avenue 12/13 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
 - i. 129 Lake Street 12/13 Robinson- Nothing to report.

The property at 13 Winter Street has been removed from the list. It no longer requires a monitor and work is completed.

7. Continuing Projects

- a. Whittemore Robbins House (and outbuildings): Robinson – Nothing to report.
- b. Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson – Library landscaping to begin. Plans to eliminate up-lights.
- c. Education/Outreach: Duffy/Robinson – Nothing to report.
- d. Historic House Markers: Orvis Road Marker received by owner.
- e. Town Hall: Duffy – Nothing to report.
- f. Web Site: Stange – Nothing to report.

8. Discussion and Hearing:

Discussion 8:03pm- Community Preservation Act with presenters;

Sarah Burks, Preservation Planner, Cambridge Historical Commission and Susan Stamps

The discussion included some history regarding the Community Preservation Act. A state law passed in 2000 that collects a surcharge to property tax with a promise of a state match. CPA funds are used to leverage grant money. There will be a chance for Arlington town meeting members to support the Community Preservation ACT at Town Meeting which start April 28. Sarah and Susan have asked that members of boards and committees in Arlington send representatives to speak at Town Meeting. The Arlington Historical Commission will send a letter in support and speak in support of CPA. Patrick Guthrie moved to support this effort. Eric Stange 2nd the motion. All members voted in favor.

8:30pm- Discussion with Jonathan Nyberg regarding 129 Lake Street.

Mr. Nyberg explained his recent connections with the property at 129 Lake Street. He was a potential buyer, however the house was sold to Scott Seaver. He approached Mr. Seaver about his idea to preserve the existing house except the 1920's addition which takes up % of the property. The original house would be moved over and then there would be room to build a new home. They are now working together and will attend a formal hearing on May 6 at 8:00pm.

This discussion ended at 8:44pm.

8:44pm- Discussion with Dave and Bill Rothfuchs regarding 64 Park Street. Plans described:

- 1. Remove porch and deck from the back of the house
- 2. Remove front porch.
- 3. May have to change/add dormer for access purposes
- 4. Remove windows, vinyl siding, enclose porch and deck.
- 5. They are looking for old pictures of the house.
- 6. The Rothfuchs have done work previously at 76-78 Park Street.
- 7. A formal hearing is planned for May 6, 2014 at 8:30pm.

This discussion ended at 8:54pm.

Eric Stange brought up Park plan for the Millbrook Linear Park. He is looking for support as part of the master plan. Plans include: fixing open spaces; improve walkways, more signage, open up bike path. The area has historical significance as the original industrial center of Arlington. The work will create awareness of Arlington as a Mill town. The passing of CPA will aid this mission. There is a question about whether the Master Plan will recognize this. The Arlington Historical Commission supports the plan.

9. Old Business- A discussion regarding concerns about window replacements at 65 Winter Street. 12 windows were replaced last year without approval from the Commission. Now NewPro windows has 11 new window ready to install. Ms. Robinson has spoken with the representative from NewPro and will give the go ahead for the installation.
10. New Business- Commissioners located the Inventory sheets and divided them up to update the data.
 - a. Plan made to verify inventory by comparing list against the Assessor's data base.
 - b. The Preservation Act Committee is looking for member and supporters.

The Arlington Historical Commission meeting adjourned at 9:26pm

30 additional minutes spent on Inventory. Final ending time 9:56pm

The next Arlington Historical Commission meeting will be May 6, 2014.

For the Arlington Historical Commission, Victoria Rose, Recording Secretary.