

Historic District Commission  
Town Hall, Room 126  
Meeting Minutes, 8 January 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM. Attending: David Honn (DH), Anita Rogers (AR), Ron Regan (RR), Fran Arsenault (FA), and Maria Crowley (MC). John Benson (JB) Selectmen Representative and David Shoemaker (DS) absent.

7:30 pm     **Citizen's questions** – No citizens.

7:32         **Minutes for 12/11** approved unanimously.

7:33         **Project spreadsheet review:** no new applications.

7:35         **Chair Update** – Our loss of room 126 was corrected so we will be using this room for all meetings this year. DH went over some highlights of the open meeting law seminars. RR – Don't forget to do the online ethics course too. DH is still working on the 2018 summary report. DH went to 53 River St. meeting where the report about the dam was reviewed. According to the dam isn't in "good shape". DH is concerned that this will make the dam more likely to be partially or totally removed. There still needs to be a study on how this will impact the area. MC – could removing the dam have a negative impact upstream for School street? DH – there is another dam near Erickson's that was repaired, I'm not sure how large the scope of the dam review will be. 4 Piper lane – still waiting for a response from the state. 39 River street porch hasn't been repaired, haven't seen any progress or work on the property for a while. RA will reach out.

7:45         **101 Main St. #1835** – Colin Doyle not present.  
Application for new roof using Certainteed Landmark Architectural shingles. The low profile back portion of the roof will be replaced in kind with rubber . AR makes a motion to approved replacing asphalt shingles with Certainteed Landmark Architectural shingles, ridge vent to run from end to end, drip edge painted to match trim. If soffit vents are to be installed use a continuous style. RR seconded, vote approved unanimously. FA will do abutters notices, AR will do certificate.

7:52         **Asa Parlin Support Letter** – MC wanted to review the content of the letter she is preparing in support of town manager John Mangiaratti's plan for

stabilizing the house. DH – we will be available to contractors and architects if needed. This is the initial step in a long term renovation project. The HDC supports the preservation of the original structure. The town should make a “public relations” effort to indicate that they are preserving instead of demolition the property and why. AR – feel strongly that we should preserve Asa Parlin house instead of demolition as removing will drastically change the character of the town hall campus and character of Woodbury lane. Next step – MC will complete letter and circulate to members for one pass review.

8:20

**Silas Holden Farmhouse – Michael Capizzi** present.

Michael organized some renovation work on the Silas Holden house near the intersection of Route 2 and Wetherbee St. in Acton and came to discuss organizing an event about the renovations. DH explained that the HDC usually sponsors annual events to discuss preservation, in the past we've hosted events about historic paint colors, stone walls, window repair and renovations and thought this could be an interesting discussion. Michael went over his history in government and historic renovations and how the Silas Holden project came to be and getting funding from the state. The completed work included restoring the foundation, deleading, repairing rotted wood, repainting the outside and fixing gutters. Michael approached Acton about more work on the house, particularly repairing and restoring the windows and landscaping. Nothing has been committed yet. The Mass department of tourism is interested in doing more work on the property. The property is owned by the Mass department of corrections and being leased by the Mass state police. Access to the property is restricted. There was a discussion about where an event could take place, exchange hall or the Acton women's club seem to be the best choices. The event would probably need to be during the week as Michael would like members of the state police and department of corrections as well as Acton town officials to attend. AR will contact the Acton women's club to see availability.

9:08

Meeting adjourned.