



Minutes of March 10, 2004

The Town of Sharon, Massachusetts

March 10, 2004

The Public Hearing regarding property located at 55 General Edwards Highway, Sharon was held by the Sharon Historical Commission and Historical District Commission at 7:30 PM in the Sharon Town Offices with Chairperson Shirley Schofield, Member David Martin, Member Robert Young, Member Deborah Pitman, and Alternates Brent Gundlah, Marie Cuneo and Reese Schroeder in attendance.

The Public Hearing was called to order at 7:35 PM.

Chairperson Schofield gave a brief welcome during which she detailed briefly the history of the house supporting the question of need for a Demolition Delay.

Lynn Peters, 12 Lee Rd, Sharon

Ms. Peters has knowledge of a person who would purchase artifacts to be used in reconstruction if the house is to be demolished. Ms. Peters also expressed her concern that the Commission does not aggressively advertise and seek buyers for buildings in danger after a delay has been imposed. Member Young explained the legal role of the Commission and the limits further imposed by the Commission's annual budget.

Robert Sansone, 26 Alton St, Walpole, MA 02081

Mr. Sansone, the current owner of the property, stated that he has had several phone calls from a woman on Edgehill Rd who has expressed interest in the house. He has not been able to make contact with her.

Attorney Joel Fishman

Representing the proposed new owners, Attorney Fishman stated that once they take possession of the property, they would be willing to give the house away.

VOTED: (Young/Martin) Voted unanimously to place a six month Demolition Delay on the house located at 55 General Edwards Highway in order to find someone interested in saving and moving the house. A letter is to be sent to Mr. Sansone, The Town of Sharon Building Inspector and Attorney Fishman regarding the Commission's decision.

VOTED: (Young/Cuneo) Voted unanimously to adjourn the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing ended at 8:05 PM.

The monthly meeting of the Sharon Historical Commission and Historical District Commission was held at 7:30 PM in the Sharon Town Offices with Chairperson Shirley

Schofield, Member David Martin, Member Robert Young, Member Deborah Pitman, and Alternates Brent Gundlah, Marie Cuneo and Reese Schroeder in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM with Chairperson Schofield welcoming interested parties remaining from the Public Hearing.

Minutes

VOTED: (Young/Pitman) Voted unanimously to approve the minutes of February 11, 2004 as written.

Position Changes

The Town of Sharon Selectman approved Brent Gundlah as Alternate, Reese Schroeder from Member to Alternate, and Deborah Pitman from Alternate to Member at their weekly meeting 3/9/04. There are no open positions remaining on the Commission.

Report of Historic District III

The Massachusetts Historical Commission approved the Preliminary Report filed by the Town of Sharon Historical Commission. Feedback from the Town of Sharon Planning Board has been requested through Joel Tran. The Planning Board will be invited to the Commission's monthly meeting 4/14/04 to give their feedback. Sharon Town Counsel's office has a copy of the study. The Commission is waiting for his feedback as well. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, 4/28/04. Site to be determined.

158 Wolomolopoag St.

Member Martin has not been able to ascertain the level of interest from the Wards'. He will try to speak with them again and also follow up with the contractor, Mr. Disippio.

Historical Signs

Only one date on the sign at the West Cemetery cannot be read. Otherwise, everything is photographed and ready to go.

Budget

The Commission has received a letter from the Massachusetts Historical Commission stating that dues are about to run out. This needs to be addressed as Chairperson Schofield thought they were paid last summer.

Preservation MASS Booklet

The booklet was reviewed briefly and determined not to be of interest to the Commission at this time.

Drake Barn on Garden St.

Vice –Chairperson Hughes has heard from the Town of Sharon Building Inspector that a demolition permit has been applied for on this old barn by a builder. Chairperson Schofield feels the barn is over 100 years old. Until the Commission receives a copy of a permit there is no action warranted towards consideration of a Demolition Delay.

Speaker on Old Houses

The Commission determined that it may be of interest sponsor some programs on old houses/buildings. Brent and Valerie Gundlah have suggested a workshop done by Allen Charles Hall, AIA of Woburn.

It was also decided as part of this discussion that the Commission needs to develop a resource list. Alternates Gundlah and Schroeder volunteered to begin some preliminary work on this list.

It was also observed that the inventoried property list needs updating.

178 No Main St.

It is felt that the Trailer Permit (1 year) may be expiring soon.

Next Meeting

The Commission set the date of the next meeting as Wednesday April 14 at 7:30 PM at the Town Offices.

Adjourn Meeting

VOTED: (Martin/Schroeder) Voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:50 PM.

- **Last Updated:** Wednesday, Apr 14, 2004



Minutes of February 11, 2004

The Town of Sharon, Massachusetts

February 11, 2004

The monthly meeting of the Sharon Historical Commission and Sharon Historic District Commission was held at 7:30 P.M. in the Sharon Town Offices with Chairperson Shirley Schofield, Vice-Chairperson Gordon Hughes, Member David Martin, Member Robert Young, Alternate Deborah Pitman and Alternate Marie Cunco in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Minutes

VOTED: (Martin/Young) Voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 14, 2004 with the following corrections:

Page 1 Under: Correspondence

Para 2:

Change: "A letter was received from Attorney Joel Fishman representing the new owners ..."

To: "A letter was received from Attorney Joel Fishman representing the **proposed** new owners ..."

Page 2 Under: Wilber School

Change 1st sentence: "Member Robert Young stated that he will be able to finish putting the necessary documents together this week for submission to the Massachusetts Historical Commission that will begin the creation of Sharon Historic District 3 encompassing the Wilber School and Kate C. Morrell Park."

To: "Member Robert Young stated that he will be able to finish putting the necessary documents together this week for submission to the Massachusetts Historical Commission that will begin the creation of Sharon Historic District 3 encompassing the Wilber School, **the Pleasant Street School** and Kate C. Morrell Park."

Page 2 Under: Warrant Article

Change 1st sentence: "**VOTED: (Young/Pitman)** Voted unanimously to contact Town Counsel about a warrant article for Spring Town Meeting calling for the naming of public buildings, public land and streets to be ..."

To: "**VOTED: (Young/Pitman)** Voted unanimously to contact Town

Counsel about 3 warrant articles for Spring Town Meeting as follows; **1. Historic District III, 2. Naming of public buildings, public land, etc. to be a joint venture between the Planning Board, the Historical Commission and others as determined by the situation, and 3. Naming of streets to be a joint venture between the Planning Board, the Historical Commission and others as determined by the situation.**

Mr. Mathur – re: 158 Wolomolopoag St. & 55 General Edwards Highway

Much discussion ensued with both Rajendra K Mathur and Attorney Joel Fishman who represents the proposed owner of 55 General Edwards Highway.

Mr. Mathur, who resides at 66 Edgehill Road is interested in either structure. The price of the houses and the difficulties of moving one vs. the other to Edgehill Road will dictate his choice. He stated that he may need help from the Commission when he meets with the Zoning Board of Appeals as the width of his property at the setback may be 25 – 30 feet short for zoning requirements. Member Young supplied Mr. Mathur with a copy of a letter sent February 8, 2004 to the ZBA in support of property owners interested in saving historic structures.

Attorney Fishman explained that there have been some delays with site plans at 55 General Edwards Highway, but felt the owner might let a group including Mr. Mathur visit. We agreed that an Open House after the Public Meeting could work if the owner agrees.

It was decided that the history of the 55 General Edwards Highway House (Guild House) will be requested from the Norwood Historical Commission.

It was also decided that Member Martin would contact the Wards' to see if there is any interest in preserving a structure that could be used to house migrant workers.

The date of the Public Hearing on the Guild House was set for March 10, 2004 at 7:30 P.M. immediately preceding the next monthly meeting of the Commission. The exact location within the Town Offices is TBD.

Dani Toole – 32 North Main Street

Vice-Chairperson Hughes volunteered to write the Letter of Appropriateness needed to go to the ZBA regarding the proposed exterior changes.

Historic District III

Member Young reported that a copy of the preliminary report has been sent to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. It was received on February 2, 2004. Copies of the report were also delivered to The Selectmen, Ben Puritz and The Planning Board.

There are 39 abutters within 150' of the proposed district. Each will received a survey prepared by Member Young. This will be a survey of pertinent issues and will be due to be returned to the Commission prior to the Public Hearing.

April 12, 2004 was set as the date of the Public Hearing. It was decided that a large room

may be necessary for the hearing. The availability of the Sharon High School Library needs to be determined.

Historic Sign Replacement

A PO has been issued to CO Graphics of Stoughton. Vice-Chairperson Hughes is to take pictures of the current signs as soon as possible.

Cobb's Tavern Sign

Alternate Pitman reported that Ben Puritz has indicated the appropriateness of approaching the Dedham Historical Society regarding the return of this sign to Sharon. He will undertake to do this himself.

Brent Gundlah

Brent L. Gundlah of 22 North Main Street indicated his willingness to speak to the Selectmen about the vacant "Alternate" position on the Commission. This was met with much enthusiasm by everyone in attendance.

Next Meeting

The Commission set the date of the next meeting as Wednesday, March 10 immediately following the 7:30 P.M. Public Hearing on the Guild House at the Town offices.

Adjourn Meeting

VOTED: (Martin/Cuneo) Voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting ended @ 9:45 P.M.

- **Last Updated:** Thursday, Mar 11, 2004

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Minutes of January 14, 2004

The Town of Sharon, Massachusetts

January 14, 2004

The monthly meeting of the Sharon Historical Commission, Sharon Historic District Commission was held at 7:30 P.M. in the Sharon Town Offices with Chairperson Shirley Schofield, Vice-Chairperson Gordon Hughes, Member David Martin, Member Robert Young and Alternate Deborah Pitman in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

32 North Main Street

The Toole family has sold the Griffin House (38 North Main) and will be moving next door to 32 North Main Street. Dani Toole presented architect's renderings for the exterior of the house. The improvements were noted to be similar in quality to those made to the Griffin House by the Tooles, and were judged to be of considerable benefit to Historic District 1.

VOTED: (Young/Martin) Voted unanimously to approve exterior changes to 32 North Main Street as presented by Dani Toole.

Minutes

VOTED: (Pitman/Young) Voted unanimously to approve the Monthly Meeting minutes of December 3, 2003 as presented.

158 Wolomolopoag St

Henry Greenberg of 13 Old Wolomolopoag expressed concern for the status of the house. Vice-Chairperson Hughes stated that he spoke with the developer who informed him that the house has been listed for sale on MLS. Chairperson Schofield added that an article detailing the house and its history is expected in The Globe South on Thursday.

Correspondence

A letter was read by Chairperson Schofield from Member W. Reese Schroeder citing personal circumstances necessitating his resignation from the Commission. This was received by the Commission with understanding but also a great deal of sadness for the considerable talents that will be lost if the resignation is accepted. Vice-Chairperson Hughes volunteered to speak with Member Schroeder to see if he would be willing to continue with the Commission as an Alternate.

A letter was received from Attorney Joel Fishman representing the new owners of 55 General Edwards Highway – Guild House stating that the current owner, Mr. Sansone has signed the demolition permit in order that the new owners can begin the demolition process prior to

owning the property. This provoked considerable discussion among the members. It was determined that Sharon Town Counsel will be consulted by Chairperson Schofield to see if it is correct for the current owner to sign the demolition permit when he will not be the owner at time of demolition if that is, in fact, the end result of the demolition delay.

361 Norwood Street, Goodband Property, Avalon Bay

Chairperson Schofield at her own initiative read a statement revealing a distant family relationship to the Goodbands. Chairperson Schofield's fairness in this action met with much approval from the Commission. It was determined by the members that there is no concern here as there is currently no action required by the Commission as regards the Goodband House.

Wilber School

Member Robert Young stated that he will be able to finish putting the necessary documents together this week for submission to the Massachusetts Historical Commission that will begin the creation of Sharon Historic District 3 encompassing the Wilber School and Kate C. Morrell Park. Chairperson Schofield reported the results of Tuesday night's Selectmen's Meeting where the Wilber School was discussed. Selectman Katz's comments regarding the need to preserve the history in this building for the Town of Sharon were well received by the members.

Attn: PEARSON
ST SCHOOL

VOTED: (Young/Martin) Voted unanimously to notify Town Counsel and Ben Puritz of the Commission's intent to place an article in the warrant for Spring Town Meeting regarding the creation of Historic District 3.

Warrant Article

VOTED: (Young/Pitman) Voted unanimously to contact Town Counsel about a warrant article for Spring Town Meeting calling for the naming of public buildings, public land and streets to be a joint venture between the Planning Board, the Historical Commission and others as determined by the situation.

Matching Grants

Member Young will look into the possibility of matching grants to help with the roof at 203 Mountain Street.

Selectmen

Member Martin volunteered to speak with Ben Puritz regarding the possibility of enlisting our Selectmen's help in reaching out to the Town of Dedham Selectmen for the return of an article of important historic interest to the Town of Sharon.

Budget

The members were grateful to learn that the budget for FY2005, beginning July 2004, has been received as requested. Discussions will begin as to how this money can be used in a way to preserve and promote the history of the town.

Next Meeting

The Commission set the date of the next meeting as Wednesday, February 11th at 7:30 P.M. at the Town offices.

Adjourn Meeting

VOTED: (Young/Martin) Voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting ended at 10:00PM

- **Last Updated:** Tuesday, Jan 20, 2004

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SHARON HISTORICAL COMMISSION
AND
SHARON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting for December 3, 2003

Minutes of November 5 meeting were approved as printed.

We welcomed Richard Merrikan of Merrikan Engineering and Joel Fishman, Attorney, both of whom came to meeting in behalf of a proposed car dealership on Route 1 (General Edwards Highway) at the location of what is now known as Sansone's pit. The commission is concerned about the future of the 1740 Guild House located on the property. At present the car dealership has only a P & S agreement so nothing can be done at this time. We discussed the procedures that could take place regarding the historic Guild House; gave Mr. Fisher a copy of the Town's Demolition By-Law.

Brent Gundlah, new owner of the Historic Aaron Fisher House at 22 North Main Street came to discuss his property which is in Historic District I. Because all property owners in the Historic District must come before the Commission prior to making any changes to the outside appearance of their property, Mr. Gundlah came to talk about the Commission's rules and regulations for work that may be done in the future.

Discussed:

1. The plaque given to the Town of Dedham which had been in Sharon for 150 years.
2. 332 East St., demolished with approval
3. 158 Wolomolopoag St. Info needs to be put in publications
4. Bicentennial Historic Site signs; replacement of each. Final approval voted.
5. Cemeteries and old burial yards
6. Concerns regarding King Philip Rock area
7. Deadline for the Warrant is Jan. 12
8. Information on matching grants to be obtained
9. Seek info re: criteria for naming of streets.

Next meeting of the Commission will be held the second Wednesday of the month, January 14, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley A. Schofield, chair
(Secretary Pro Tem)