

Holliston Historical Commission  
Minutes of January 11, 2023

Present: Frank Chamberlain, Carol Kosicki, Sara Zarrelli, Mary Greendale

Absent: Ben Clarkson, James Keast

Frank Chamberlain called the meeting to order at 7:20.

**Design Standards:**

Committee agreed that we need to establish Design Standards for the Village Commercial area as soon as possible as per conversations with property and business owners.

Goal: Create design standards that will be implemented by the Design Review Committee as noted in Zoning Bylaws. These standards are to preserve the scale and historical appearance of the VC area and allow developers and the town flexibility within certain parameters. Design Standards need to be part of Long-Range Plans to emphasize commitment.

1. We recommend:

Travis be the appointing authority of the Committee that creates the standards. Historical Commission would like a seat on that committee. EDC, PB may make sense, too, but leave that to TA. Can TA speak with Karen Sherman? Do we need to make this recommendation to the SB?

2. Town should hire a consultant to help with standards that preserve historical aspects without being extreme. Mary Greendale will contact folks for recommendations of experts.

3. Do we need Town Meeting action to establish the Committee to create the standards? Seemingly not since the Design Review Comm. is in bylaws.

Does TM need to approve the standards once developed?

4. Will the committee that develops the standards also serve as the Design Review Committee? If not, how will the final committee be established. Again, we hope that TA will be the appointing authority.

5. Frank and Mary will try to meet with Travis next week.

**Demolition Delay and Inventory of Significant Buildings**

Goals: Extend the delay period. Prevent demolition by “voluntary” neglect.

It would be helpful to have an inventory. Members can come up with list of buildings that are outside the Historic Districts. All buildings in the Districts are presumed significant. We need a plan to develop this list.

We must include significant buildings that are more contemporary like the geodesic home on Prentice Street.

We agreed we want to then hire an authority to visit and corroborate our list and/or add other buildings. Expert needs to substantiate historic value. This report should also become part of Envision Holliston's Long-Range Plan.

**Miller Tomb and Cemeteries**

No action. Waiting until James is back.

Next Meeting is January 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Submitted by:  
Mary Greendale