



Meeting Date: November 25, 2019

In Attendance: Maria Boyes (Chair), Carol Tener, Jennifer Jaruzelski, Linda Habgood (TC), Robert Wendel (Town Historian), Greg Blasi, Alison Dallenbach-Carey (A2), Michael La Place (PB)

Absent: Kelly Kessler (Vice-Chair), Katie Spikes, Joe Biren, Tom Jardim (Town Attorney)

The meeting minutes from October 28, 2019, were reviewed; Robert made a motion to approve, Jenny seconded; Michael abstained. The minutes were approved by the Commission.

New Business:

Millennial and Historic Preservation research from National Trust for Historic Preservation. Robert went through the results of an online survey which focused on millennials and their views on historic preservation. Nearly 97% feel it is important to preserve and conserve buildings, architecture, neighborhoods, and communities. Two thirds believe this is important, but have not been involved in the cause, and more than 53% are very interested in getting involved in historic preservation. More than half would rather shop or dine in a historic downtown and choose to do business with those that support historic preservation over those that do not. Millennials have a stronger preference for a home with modern amenities, but want to live in an older neighborhood with historic character. Many believe the underlying history and culture are what make these historic structures and communities special and worth preserving.

Commission vote on plaques for designated historic properties.

The commission voted on the design for the plaques for newly designated homes. The shape will be oval, the size will be 8"x6", and the wording will include designated local historical landmark along the top, the year built in the middle, and the Town of Westfield along the bottom. Michael made a motion to approve; Robert seconded.

Applications with Town for serving on Commission.

Maria reminded the members whose term is expiring at the end of the year to reapply if they would like to continue to serve on the commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Updates

- Communications Committee
 - Jenny Jaruzelski, Maria Boyes, Katie Spikes
 - Design Guidelines
 - Newly designated homes
 - 300 year anniversary

Maria gave an update on the design guidelines being prepared by Gail Hunton. A sample page of the layout should be done by December 15th, and early next year the finished product should be completed. The 300-year anniversary is coming up in 2020, Robert is the co-chair of the steering committee. Robert



noted some events are tentatively being scheduled, but fundraising and additional volunteers are needed to support these efforts.

- Designation and Historic Home Owner Relations Committee
Kelly Kessler, Robert Wendel, Maria Boyes-
 - West Dudley residents
 - North Chestnut resident
 - Embree Crescent resident

The commission met with the homeowners at 266 West Dudley, and several neighbors on their block about designating their homes. Mary Anne Healy (628 Embree Crescent) has expressed interested in designating her home, as well as a resident on North Chestnut Street.

- Historic Preservation Plan Review Committee
Kelly Kessler, Robert Wendel, Alison Carey
 - Preservation Plan updated as part of Master Plan

Maria stated the commission will be looking to hire someone next year to update the preservation plan.

- Historic Preservation Ordinance Review
Tom Jardim, Robert Wendel

Robert stated there are portions of the ordinance that still need to be addressed with Tom Jardim and Alan Trembulak. They are still trying to find some middle ground on acceptable wording regarding demolitions.

The meeting was opened to public comment:

None.

Closed to public comment.

Meeting adjourned: 9:15 pm

Meeting minutes recorded by Linda Jacus