

# Medway Historical Commission

Medway Historical Society, 7:30 p.m.

May 1, 2013

Minutes

**Confirmation of quorum:** Grace Hoag, Marian Pierre-Louis, Paul Russell, Rob Pomponio, Gene  
Absent: Mark Wilcox, Jeanne Johnson, Donna Hailey

Guests: Mr Stephern Wolfrey and Mr William Mofford (9 Milford St)  
Ms. Tracey Bennet (195-197 Main St)

**Call To Order:** 7:45 p.m.

**8:00pm Rabbit Hill Historic District Construction Request for Clarification: 9 Milford Street,** Mr. Wolfrey and Mr. Mofford appeared before this Commission because they have purchased the home and would like to renovate it. They acknowledge that it is within the Rabbit Hill Historic District and would like to know what they can and cannot do to the home with regard to any preservation restrictions within the Historic District. They have had an engineer's report on the building and John Emidy the Town Building Inspector has been through the building to confirm the state of the building. There is a pronounced lean to the structure caused by damage to the framing caused by termites. They presented a proposal to remove the second floor of the house and re-frame the house to create a "colonial-like" structure. The roof line would also be re-oriented to be perpendicular to the road (currently parallel). The members of the commission discussed that the proposal retained elements of the existing structure but recognized that there are no current restrictions in Medway's Rabbit Hill Historic District that would limit or prevent this type of renovation. As it is not an outright demolition of the entire house the Commission felt that no notice of intent to demolish a potentially Historic Home and therefore no demolition review was required. Rob said that he would communicate this to Mr. Emidy in the form of a letter and send it to him.

**8:30pm 195-197 Main Street Cole Library and Torrent Fire House Properties:** Ms. Tracey Bennet came before the Historical Commission to tell us about her efforts to convince the BOS to purchase the historic structures at 195 and 197 Main St (former Cole Library and Torrent Fire House) as they are on the market after a bank foreclosure. She provided a copy of a powerpoint presentation that she will give to the BOS and said that she has already talked to some individual Selectmen (G. Trindade and D. Crowley) to let them know about the buildings and her proposal. She has spoken with John Emidy. She has also discussed the building with Nate Multinski (sp?) (Historic Commission of Millis) with regard to the firehouse as Millis has also renovated one of their early fire houses, which was the "sister unit" to the Torrent house. Ms. Bennet plans on going before the CPC at their next meeting to present her proposal to use money from the Historical Commission Allocation for the purchase of the properties. She mentioned that she has spoken to Mark Wilcox and Mark Cerel proposing that the Historic Society could move their artifacts from their current location to the Cole Library if the Town bought the properties. Mark Wilcox had told her that the HS board would have to vote on that issue before that would ever occur. Other potential uses could be for community service use and educational purposes with the Medway Schools. She spoke with Nancy Thompson about how it could be used for history of Medway learning opportunities. There were questions about the impact of the route 109 repaving and improvements project and Ms. Bennet said that she has spoken with the Police and they anticipate 6 street parking spaces between High St and Main St. Two handicap parking spaces would be established in front of the fire house doors.

**Thayer Home Place Dev Commission: No update**

**Evergreen Cemetery:** We received an invoice (0912-2) from Gravestone Services (Kai Nalenz) for the remainder of his work up at Evergreen Cemetery. Motion to pay the invoice was made by Marian and Seconded by Paul. Unanimous vote in favor of paying. This will be forwarded to the CPC for payment. Rob will forward the invoice to Shirley Bliss at the CPC.

**Form B update on Thayer Home Place:** No Update

**Historic District Markers:** No Update

**Other business:** Rob announced that he will not be seeking reappointment to the Historical Commission at the end of his term on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. He will organize all of his records and files and have them ready for transfer to the HC by the June meeting. He has been grateful for being able to serve on the Commission and all of the progress that has been made over the past 9 years in the preservation of Medway's Historical resources.

At 9:17 p.m. Marian moved that we adjourn. Which was approved by all.

Next meeting: June 5, 2013

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Pomponio