

**Medway Historical Commission**  
**Minutes**  
Historical Society Building, 223 Main St., Medway

**Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 7:30 p.m.**

1. 7:35 pm Confirmation of quorum: Gene Liscomb, Paul Russell, Jeanne Johnson  
Mark Wilcox, Alex Burinskiy. Call to order.

2. Minutes of February meeting were read and approved.

3. Demolition applications: **42 Highland Street**. We took no action at Feb. meeting as applicant was not the property owner. Jeanne sent Applicant Matthew Smith a letter informing him of this. He has supplied a P&S signed by owners. As this is the first time we recall having an applicant present us with a signed Purchase-and-Sale agreement, Jeanne consulted with former H.C. Chairman Rob Pomponio and Town Counsel Barbara St. Andre to verify that we are on solid legal ground if we do not determine the house to be preferably preserved and thus, eligible for a demolition permit without the legal owner's presence. Rob sent by e-mail a helpful document on preservation, and Ms. St. Andre verified that the P&S signed by the legal owner is sufficient evidence that the owner agrees to whatever action the prospective buyer decides to take. We can now proceed to discuss if the house is preferably preserved. (A second letter was sent to Mr. Smith informing him we would consider his application for demolition and inviting him to this meeting. He did not come.)

We discussed the house: it's over 100 years old. The historic integrity has not been preserved (it has an addition; roof was shingled a few years ago); it is near Rabbit Hill National Historic District but not in it. It isn't listed in the Medway Survey of Historic Properties (1996-98) and is not uniquely representative in design or architecture of the period in which it was built, nor does it contain any distinct features from that period. Its loss would not negatively impact the streetscape. No one important in Medway's history occupied the house.

We voted 5-0 that the house is not preferably preserved. No further action on our part is required. Jeanne will notify Mr. Smith, Town Clerk Maryjane White, and Building Commissioner Jack Mee.

4 CPC report (Gene Liscombe) –the CPC meeting will meet next Monday.

5. Updates

A. Paul—document preservation project. Gene took the Warrant Article regarding this project to Allison Potter and she told him it was perfect. Now we wait for Town Meeting approval. Town Meeting is May 9, 2016.

B. Evergreen Cemetery – Mark brought his documents to Paul tonight so Paul can begin the process of scanning them. Mark asked how someone gets on the Board of Cemetery Trustees. Jeanne should try to find out.

Move to adjourn: Gene moved, Paul seconded. Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2016 at 7:30pm, Historical Society Building, 223 Main Street, Medway, MA 02053

We should discuss goals for 2016. Mark suggested rebuilding the old Evergreen Meeting House which used to be at the cemetery. Gene mentioned there used to be a pond behind it lined with stones. We should work on source for plaques for historic houses that people could purchase if desired.

These minutes were prepared by Jeanne Johnson.

Call Jeanne Johnson, 508-533-4461 with questions or for further information.