

MINUTES

**Barnstable Historical Commission
Town Hall
367 Main Street, Hyannis
Selectmen's Conference Room
February 28, 2012
9:30AM**

Members Present: Jessica Rapp Grasseti, Chair, Nancy Shoemaker, Nancy Clark, Len Gobeil, Marilyn Fifield

Members Absent: George Jessop

Staff: Marylou Fair, Administrative Assistant

*Chairman Jessica Rapp Grasseti called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Acting under the provisions of the Code of the Town of Barnstable, ss 112-1 through 112-7, the Historical Commission held a **Public Hearing** on the following applications*

**Ford, Michael D. Tr., Irving Ave. Nominee Trust II, 111 Irving Avenue, Hyannis,
Map 287, Parcel 065**

Partial demolition and alteration to single-family home – (Built 1925 – Inventoried – Individually Listed, Contributing National Register District, National Historic Landmark)
Represented by Attorney Michael Ford and Contractor Mark Grenier

Attorney Ford stated that they appeared before the Commission at the last meeting looking for determination that the proposed changes did not meet the criteria of significant alteration. However, the Commission was divided, with some members voicing the wish to go forward with a Public Hearing. Upon consultation after that initial meeting, the homeowners expressed a desire to go forward with the Public Hearing.

Attorney Ford further noted that there is no question that this is a historic building, but the question is if it is subject to the demolition delay ordinance. He said they worked with Sarah Korjeff at the Cape Cod Commission and did incorporate the suggestions she outlined in a memo which was received by this Commission. The consensus was that the addition was in keeping with the district and that of a landmark property, and the proposed alterations were significantly less than what would trigger a referral to the Cape Cod Commission.

Attorney Ford also stated that the homeowners plan on staying in the home for many years and intend to be good stewards and maintain the character of the house. Nancy Clark thanked Attorney Ford and the homeowners for taking this project to Public Hearing.

Marilyn Fifield also thanked the attorney and homeowners for agreeing to the Public Hearing but voiced concern that there is so little review of something as important as alterations to a National Historic Landmark. To protect that designation, she said she would like to see review by the National Park Service (NPS) and again asked for consideration of a Preservation Restriction on the property. She noted that both considerations would have to be voluntary on the part of the owners, and she added that inappropriate alteration could cause removal of the National Historic Landmark designation and National Register listing. She felt advance approval from the NPS would be wise to avoid jeopardizing the home's historic designation. Mr. Ford replied that he had sought the review by Sarah Korjeff of the Cape Cod Commission out of concern for the property's historic distinction, but Ms. Fifield noted that it is NPS which rules on the historic designation.

Len Gobeil confirmed that the addition is an enclosed roof deck and Nancy Clark asked if there would be an interior elevator. Attorney Ford stated that the plan provides for an interior staircase at such an angle that it can be used by the homeowners. The lighting was discussed, and Mark Grenier explained that no substantial lighting has been added. The lighting that exists is intrusive and very bright and the wish is to reduce the brightness by adding down lighting rather than spot lighting.

Motion duly made by Nancy Clark, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, that in accordance with Chapter 112 § F the Barnstable Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the portion of the building located at 111 Irving Avenue, Hyannis, would not be detrimental to the historical, cultural or architectural heritage or resource of the Town.

VOTE:

AYE: Grassetti, Clark, Shoemaker, Gobeil

NAY: Fifield

Falkson, Peter & Shannon, 27 Parker Road, Osterville, Map 117, Parcel 162

Demolition of single-family home – (Built c.1850 – Inventoried)

No Representative Present

Chair Grassetti opened Public Comment and Laura Hall Chase came forward to speak on behalf of herself and her sister, Betsy McIntyre. She said this house was built by their great-great-great grandfather and she would like people to know the history of the house as they are the last of the Halls. Ms. Chase added that houses such as these are very important to the village of Osterville. Chair Grassetti thanked Ms. Chase for coming to the Hearing and commented that she did read the article in *The Barnstable Patriot*, and it is always nice to have a historical trail, either by photographs or narrative for the historical file. This Commission cannot prevent the demolition, but can delay the action by six months in hopes that perhaps significant pieces of the house may be preserved.

Nancy Shoemaker stated that whether there is a six-month delay or not, this Commission does request permission to document the house with photographs for the historic file.

Motion duly made by Nancy Clark, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker in accordance with Chapter 112 § G, that the Barnstable Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the structure located at 27 Parker Road, Osterville would be detrimental to the historical, cultural or architectural heritage or resource of the Town.

Discussion: Len Gobeil confirmed that if this motion is passed, it would result in a demolition delay of six months.

So Voted Unanimously

Other Business/Correspondence Received

Hyannis Public Library, Letter dated 2/13/2012 requesting Letter of Support

Len Gobeil asked what would result from the letter of support as the CPC met the night before. Marilyn Fifield acknowledged that any additional letters of support would be added to those already received and considered in the funding decisions ahead.

Motion duly made by Nancy Clark, seconded by Len Gobeil, that the Barnstable Historical Commission write a Letter of Support for the Hyannis Public Library to be submitted to the Community Preservation Committee.

So Voted Unanimously

Commonwealth of Mass, Letter dtd 2/9/2012 re: Open Meeting Law Complaint – Abington Planning Board

Chair Grassetti reminded the members of the Open Meeting Law and how it relates to e-mail communications between members.

Approval of Minutes:

February 07, 2012

Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Clark, to approve the minutes of February 07, 2012, as edited by Marilyn Fifield.

So Voted Unanimously

CPA Update

Marilyn Fifield reviewed the historic items that came before the Community Preservation Committee on February 27. She also asked if the flagpole monument in front of the JFK Museum has been inventoried and included in the property's National Register listing. She also said the Historical Commission needs to vote on the significance of the Coleman Paintings that the Town Clerk is interested in restoring in order to qualify them for Community Preservation funding, since they are not listed on the State or National Register.

With no further business before this Commission, a motion was duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Clark, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05am.

So Voted Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Marylou Fair, Recording Secretary
and Commission Clerk Marilyn Fifield