

## MINUTES

**Barnstable Historical Commission  
Town Hall  
367 Main Street, Hyannis  
Selectmen's Conference Room  
March 20, 2012  
10:00AM**

**Members Present:** Jessica Rapp Grassetti, Chair, Nancy Shoemaker, Len Gobeil,  
Marilyn Fifield, Laurie Young

**Members Absent:** George Jessop, Nancy Clark

**Staff:** Marylou Fair, Administrative Assistant

*Chairman Jessica Rapp Grassetti called the meeting to order at 10:00am.*

### INFORMAL DISCUSSION

#### **Tom Lynch, Acting Town Manager**

Discussion with the Commission regarding Kennedy Legacy Trail

Acting Town Manager Tom Lynch came to the meeting to inform the Commission on the progress of the Kennedy Legacy Trail and to solicit their input. He also thanked the Commission for their service and expressed his appreciation for the great job they are doing.

He explained that the Growth Management Department is working to incorporate three different walking trails, the Kennedy Legacy Trail, Marine & Heritage Trail and a Cultural District Trail that will involve the downtown area as a walkable area with cultural and historical assets to enjoy.

He said the first one to move forward is the Kennedy Legacy Trail, and a Public Hearing was held recently to gather public input. The idea is to relate not just to JFK, but the Kennedy family and their significance to this area. It will begin at the JFK Museum and there will be small interpretive signage providing specific information, a telephone number to call for additional information and QR codes that could be accessed through Smart phones.

The trail will continue along Pearl Street to South Street, with other stops including the St. Francis Xavier Church, the Armory, Aselton Park, the Visitor Center at the Harbor, then continuing down to the JFK Memorial. Roses will be planted to link the trail.

The Town has met with the JFK Foundation Board and they are very enthusiastic. He also has had the opportunity to meet with Warren Rutherford and Jessica Sylver of the Hyannis Chamber. Acting Town Manager Lynch brought draft copies for review, but cautioned the Commissioners that changes already identified are not indicated on that draft. He welcomed any input from the Commission as a whole or any representative. Marilyn Fifield volunteered, and Nancy Shoemaker said she thought Commissioner Fifield would be a great conduit for the Commission.

Len Gobeil inquired if this would be ready to implement this year, and Mr. Lynch stated that a very ambitious target would be the President's birthday which is at the end of May, and they are working towards this goal.

Chair Grassetti then asked about plans for the Armory. Acting Town Manager Lynch replied that there is an assessment in progress to address the heating, ventilation and windows, and how they proceed after the assessment is unknown at this time. After the assessment is done, the Town may want to put out a call for interested parties. What has always been talked about is to recognize and commemorate inside the

building the site of the President Elect's victory speech there. Nancy Shoemaker asked if there were any plans to demolish the building, and Mr. Lynch said there are not at this time. Chair Grassetti thought it would be a wonderful idea to incorporate the Armory as a stop on the Trail with pictures and a recording of the speech. Ted Worthsberg, an observer, asked if the Legacy Trail, once finalized, would be made available on the Town's website, and Mr. Lynch replied that it could be considered when the document has been finalized.

*Acting under the provisions of the Code of the Town of Barnstable, ss 112-1 through 112-7, the Historical Commission held a **Hearing** on the following application:*

**Notice of Intent to seek a permit to demolish:**

Pursuant to Chapter 112, § 3D of the Town of Barnstable Code, the BHC determines whether the structure proposed for demolition is a Significant Building in accordance with the definition set forth in Chapter 112, § 2.

**Saul, B F II Tr of the 395 Eel River Road Realty Trust, 395 Eel River Road, Osterville  
Map 114, Parcel 022 (Built 1920 – Not Inventoried)**

Partial Demolition and Alterations

Represented by Gordon Clark, Northside Design

The Commission reviewed photographs of the existing structure submitted with the application. Mr. Clark stated that the house was built in 1920 and has had many upgrades over the years. They propose an addition on each end of the house to expand the living space. A railing will be added to the top of each addition. There is currently a roof deck and railings on rear of house that do not meet code and they wish to replace with traditional baluster railings and capped posts.

On the front elevation, 2/2 window panes will replace existing casement windows, and an eyebrow window will replace the current skylights *and enlarged windows on each side of a new front door.*

Chair Grassetti confirmed that the two existing chimneys on each end of the house would remain, and Nancy Shoemaker confirmed that the new windows will have wood trim.

**Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Marilyn Fifield, that in accordance with Chapter 112 § 3D the Barnstable Historical Commission does not find the portion of the building located at 395 Eel River Road, Osterville, to be demolished a Significant Building in accordance with the Definition in Chapter 112 § 2B.**

**Vote: So Voted Unanimously**

**Informal Discussion**

**Rosengard, David & Penniah, 41 Weaver Road, Centerville, Map 207, Parcel 106**

Represented by Rick Tupper

Mr. Tupper asked if the Commission had any information on this property, as he thought the architect was Royal Barry Wills, and he sought guidance on the homeowner's renovation plans. Originally, the owners wanted to add a full dormer to the front of the home, but they now prefer to add two small dormers. A full dormer is proposed for the rear of the property, plus removal of the outdoor shower.

Chair Grassetti asked how they determined that this was a Royal Barry Wills house, and Mr. Tupper thought the contractor had provided that information. Chair Grassetti felt that in altering an older home, it is a good idea to try and keep the front façade of the house as close to original as possible.

Nancy Shoemaker said that she knew of a similar home and would try to arrange for the owner to contact to Mr. Tupper.

## **Other Business, Correspondence Received**

### **Coleman Paintings – Historical Significance**

Town Clerk Linda Hutchenrider was present to discuss her request for funding to restore two Vernon Coleman paintings hanging in her Town Hall office. She explained that the Town Manager accepted these paintings as a gift a few years ago and they were placed in the vault, but she recently retrieved the paintings and had them hung in her office so that others could enjoy them. The paintings are in need of cleaning and new frames.

She has confirmed that they are Vernon Coleman paintings even though they do not have a signature. Since they are quite large, she hopes to locate a place on Town property where they could be displayed permanently.

She has received a second bid of \$1500 for the cleaning, much lower than the first of approximately \$2300, and she is seeking funding from the Community Preservation Committee.

Marilyn Fifield explained that a vote of the Commission on the paintings' significance would be needed in order to qualify for CPC funding, since they are not listed on the State or National Register of Historic Places.

**Motion duly made by Nancy Shoemaker, seconded by Len Gobeil, that the Barnstable Historical Commission finds that the two Vernon Coleman paintings in possession of the Town Clerk are significant paintings and add to the historical aspect of the Town.**

### **Discussion:**

Laurie Young felt that even the \$1500 bid exceeded the paintings' value, although she thought Mr. Coleman was important to the Town. She wondered if private funding might be found for restoration of all the Town's paintings, in order to save CPC funds, in such demand, for other purposes.

Nancy Shoemaker explained that this Commission does not judge whether CPC funds should be used, but simply decides if the paintings have significance. She thought the idea of private funding was a good one and CPC might appreciate the encouragement to seek private funding.

**VOTE: So Voted Unanimously**

### **Create Subcommittee to Review Chapter 112: Historic Properties**

Chair Grassetti proposed creating a Subcommittee to review Chapter 112 which is the Commission's demolition-delay ordinance. Currently, if an application is filed, the Commission must meet within 7 business days. She sought three volunteers to work with the Town Attorney's Office to review the ordinance and recommend ways to streamline the process. Chair Grassetti offered to participate, as did Marilyn Fifield, and Laurie Young also volunteered, saying this would not only be helpful to her, but also to the Commission as she would be looking at it from a new member's perspective.

### **Request from Marcia King, Grant Coordinator, for Letter of Support – Custom House**

Committee members reviewed the draft letter proposed for support of the Custom House.

**Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, to direct the Chair to submit the letter of support for grant funding through the Massachusetts Historical Commission.**

**So Voted Unanimously**

Approval of Minutes:- February 28, 2012

**Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, to approve the minutes of February 28, 2012, as edited by Marilyn Fifield.**

**So Voted Unanimously**

Updates: No CPC or village updates were available

**With no further business before this Commission, a motion was duly made by Nancy Shoemaker, seconded by Laurie Young, to adjourn the meeting at 11:03am.  
So Voted Unanimously**

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