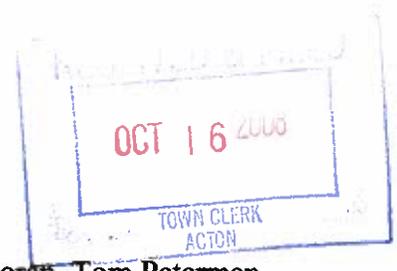


Acton Historic District Commission
Meeting minutes 1/8/2008



Kathryn Acerbo-Bachman, Anne Forbes, Scott Kutil, Michaela Moran, Tom Peterman, Aaron Moore, and Brian Bendig were in attendance. Ellie Halsey was absent. Terra Friedrichs and David Honn, prospective members, were present.

Minutes for the 11/19/07, 12/3/07 and 12/17/07 meetings were approved as corrected.

Violations: DiCapri Pizza – violation letter not yet re-sent. It is thought that the COA should be enclosed along with the letter to remind the owners of the terms of the certificate. Caitlin Adler, 5A Spruce St. Sweet Bytes will join us at 8:30 1/22/08 to discuss remedies for the sign violations there. BB to prepare notice of violation for 26 School.

Satellite dishes – KA-B, a resident of the South Acton HDA, raised an issue respecting jurisdiction and enforcement. AF suggested that the HDC send a letter to all property owners in the districts re dishes and the fact that they are in our jurisdiction. BB did a visual survey of the South Acton HDA. He noted the significant number of visible dishes at the 40B location on River Street, which we therefore cannot do anything about. The AF letter idea could be folded into a general letter to raise HDC and Ch. P awareness.

8:00 p.m. appointment. Dean Charter for the West Acton Fire station generator. 256 Central St. DC brought photos of existing generator at W. Acton fire station which illustrates snow removal issues. The proposed solution in the application is a shadow fence (10') around the unit due to the proximity of the pavement and the lot lines. Unit is 48" wide so the surround would be nearly 8'. TP noted a few shrubs parallel to Central St. would be a good addition. Eastern red cedar was mentioned as an appropriate choice for vegetative screening. Instead of a fence, which would have to be quite large, a lower tech solution would be to paint the unit a darker color and to screen with vegetation. Application deemed withdrawn, pending painting in the spring with a screening vegetation proposal, to fulfill the condition in the original application.

17 Woodbury Lane- possible uses discussed. Ideas to be circulated by email, BB will then send them on to the BoS, the new town manager (Mr. Ledoux), and John Murray.

Hardiplank- KA-B proposed that going forward the HDC not recommend the use of the hardiplank because in close proximity to other homes with clapboard siding its use is discernible. General discussion of case-by-case evaluation need. BB noted that is our precedent.

Three remaining unplaced District boundary signs- no recent progress. Winter ground conditions will impede placement for some months.

277 Central -- Acton Family Dental has an application extension through 2/15/08. No recent progress or news.

81 River St.-AF reported that a portion of the mill building fell into Fort Pond Brook. The portion which was destroyed was on pilings over the creek, but not an historic portion of the structure. BB noted that there has been no further activity on the portion to contain the three single family structures. KA-B looked at the landscape design and found that the plantings chosen are inappropriate- dwarf, 'meatball', or not viable for the location. Further consideration to be given to this issue when we receive the next application relating to those structures.

53 River- no further communications from the development team. There was a brief discussion as to how Section 8.2 of the Historic District Bylaw (Chapter P) would relate to a project of this type. David Honn contacted the town planner asking for any communications which may come in on the project. Meeting on Comprehensive Community Plan a week from tomorrow at 7:30pm in town hall room 204.

CPC report-AF with regard to Exchange Hall application. CPC is considering the restrictions/conditions on their consideration of the application. CPC administrative costs are estimated at 40 hours per week.

BB to contact Laura Mason of IT to meet with us on the 22nd.

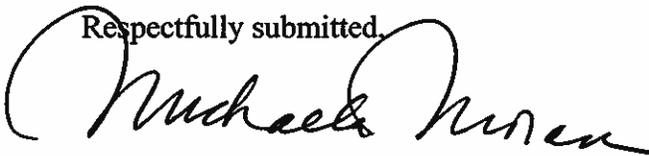
BB will send DH's resume to Dore' Hunter, BoS liaison to HDC for interview, following the demise of the VCC. AF will get the list from the town clerk for informational purposes.

In order to orient newer members and move forward on assignments and informal subcommittees, AF will begin writing a memo describing our procedures.

AF proposed to have the HDC buy a couple of copies of Get Your House Right by Marianne Cusato and Ben Pentreath for reference. BB suggested the book be acquired by the AML. KA-B will obtain a couple of copies. HDC will fund.

Joanne Robinson , Arlington HDC, could come give us a presentation on historic landscape design. KA-B is in contact with her about her schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michaela Moran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "M".

Michaela Moran, Secretary