

BELMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Town Hall
Jan 9, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Attending: Co-chairs Richard Cheek and Michael Smith, Paul Bell, Lisa Harrington, Arleyn Levee, Lydia Ogilby, Richard Pichette and Linn Hobbs

Assemble a prioritized list of proposed projects with estimated costs as requested by the Community Preservation Act Study Committee
After a general discussion on potential projects Lisa Harrington agreed to write a summary paragraph on the scope of this Act. This summary will help the BHDC to draw up a list of recommended projects to be reviewed at next month's meeting.

Update on plans for the rehabilitation of the Central Fire Station by the Burke Land Company
As noted in last month's meeting, this project is still under review by the BHDC and by the joint Planning Board/ZBA group. Further information is needed by both the BHDC and the Boards.

Update on the McLean Land Management Committee
Richard Pichette reported that the issue of having a bike trail as part of the McLean conservation land layout has finally been put to a vote by the LMC. The resulting expression by committee members was unanimously in favor of having said bike trail as part of the conservation land master plan.

Discuss the use of the Belmont Historical Commission name
No agreement was reached on the proper use of the Belmont Historical Commission title when the Belmont Historic District Commission members act as Belmont Historical Commission members. Mr Cheek and Mr. Pichette will work out a common position on this subject for group discussion at a future meeting.

Report on the Open Meeting and Public Record Laws
Nancy Richards reported that she attended a public meeting held by Town Counsel at which the above subject was discussed. The following points were made:
* E-mail replies, on any subject, should only go to the individual who sent the question and not to all committee members.
* Do not have side meetings with numbers greater than two
* Sub-committee meetings should have less than a quorum.

Update on the editing of the Design Guidelines
Lisa Harrington reported that some editing work will be done in the next few weeks and that she hoped to have some material to review at next month's meeting.

Update on Trapelo Road/Belmont St. Corridor Project
Richard Cheek will appoint a sub-committee of BHDC members to meet with Glenn Clancy to review the projects' design goals and to learn progress to date. This meeting will occur in the next few weeks.

5 Somerset St.
Tom Saltsman (architect/builder) for 5 Somerset St. presented photographs of the old metal flashing and exterior wall boards that were revealed by the temporary removal of the pediment above the entry door which faced Somerset St. These photographs had been taken to demonstrate that the original presence of siding above the door indicated that no pediment had been present originally. He requested that he be allowed to permanently remove the later

pediment and to replace it with wood clapboards to match the adjacent clapboards. Additionally, he wanted to extend a stone garden wall to better integrate some exterior mechanical equipment. Mr. Saltsman will return next month with more photographs and drawings to better explain his requests which also included making new second floor wooden storm windows. The new storm windows will match the existing storm windows on level one.

Minutes written by Paul Bell.