

MINUTES
Belmont Historic District Commission Meeting
Wednesday, November 1, 2006 at 7:00pm
Town Hall, Conference Room 2

Attending: Michael Smith (Chair-Acting); Arleyn Levee; Lydia Ogilby; Paul (Chip) Bell; Lisa Harrington; Nancy Richards (Secretary-Acting)

1. **Minutes** from October 4, 2006 meeting were read and approved as read.

2. **Rachel Raymond House, Park Avenue**

Information on the Rachel Raymond Home, designed by Eleanor Raymond, from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) was distributed. The MHC has declared the house to be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

The house has been razed. Richard will follow up and try to obtain copies of photographs from Belmont Hill School of the house before it was demolished.

The loss of this house raises the question about demolition delay in Belmont. Marilyn Fenollosa should be e-mailed about protections in Lexington. M. Smith to check to see if Lincoln has a demo delay by-law.

Issues of process were tabled until next meeting. Richard Cheek met with Headmaster Melvoin but was unable to persuade the School to postpone the demolition. Arleyn Levee wrote a letter to the BHS citing HDC's concern about lack of due process in determining the fate of the building.

Paul Bell suggested forming a subcommittee on the Raymond House including himself, Richard Cheek and Mike Smith to write a letter to the Belmont Citizen-Herald lamenting the demolition of the Raymond House and stressing the need for a demolition delay by-law to provide time for developing alternatives to the destruction of historically or architecturally significant buildings within the Town.

3. **Town Hall Sign, Update:**

The sign for the Town Hall has been painted and is in place. According to Lisa H., it looks very good.

Repainting of the building is finished. Repainting of the Waverley Fire Station needs further discussion.

4. **Placement and installation of emergency generator and auxiliary air conditioning condensers for the Homer Municipal Building, Update:**

We are waiting for a response from Kevin Looney to Paul Bell's suggestions about placement of the emergency generator and condensers.

5. **Town Hall Doors, Update:**

M. Smith to follow-up with Kevin Looney request for additional bids for repairing the Town Hall lower entrance doors.

6. **Central Fire Station, Update:**

So far we have been unable to view the amendments and/or exhibits attached to the Purchase and Sale Agreement.

7. **Our Lady of Mercy Church Properties**

Richard will provide an update at next meeting.

8. **Guidelines, Update:**

Richard to update at next meeting the search for an editor of the newly revised Design Guidelines for the Pleasant Street Historic District.

9. **Other old or new business**

- **McLean** - New developer for retirement community was cited; uncertain who is supervising the design and construction of Olmsted Drive. is understood.

10. **Future meetings:**

Date of December meeting was changed to Wednesday, December 13th.

Submitted By: Nancy Richards