

BELMONT HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
June 1, 2005
Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

Attending: Co-chairs Richard Cheek and Lydia Ogilby, Paul Bell, Linn Hobbs, Arleyn Levee, Richard Pichette, Nancy Richards, Michael Smith, Sharon Vanderslice.

624 PLEASANT STREET

Attending: James and Laura Erwin, owners

A Certificate of Appropriateness was unanimously approved for a proposed kitchen renovation project, which required the demolition of a small exterior walk-in pantry. This reference project was reviewed in detail at our previous May meeting.

536 PLEASANT STREET

A Certificate of Appropriateness was unanimously approved for a kitchen replacement window, as described at the Commission's May meeting.

HISTORIC DISTRICT DESIGN GUIDELINES

Michael Smith passed out the latest draft copy of the Historic District Design Guidelines, which reflected the work done at the Commission's 14 May 05 workshop. After the Commission reviewed said document, individuals were assigned tasks to help speed the documents completion.

515 CONCORD AVENUE

A majority of those Commission members who viewed the two paint swatches at 515 Concord Avenue preferred the lighter blue color. Owners to proceed with repainting the exterior of the house.

MCLEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER

Richard Cheek reported that the Massachusetts Historical Commission will request that the telecommunication tower on Concord Avenue be painted as requested by the Belmont Historic District Commission during its review of said tower.

PLEASANT STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Attending: Arthur Wolfson, Pleasant Street resident

Mr. Wolfson appeared before the Commission to state his concern about trees being felled prematurely by state contractors on South Pleasant Street. The reconstruction contract states that no trees shall be cut north of 750 Pleasant Street until work south of that address is substantially completed. But the drainage portion of the reconstruction contract does not include this clause, Mr. Wolfson stated, and contractors have already cut trees north of 750. He asked how the Town of Belmont planned to ensure that the Historic District Commission's specifications for Pleasant Street will be met.

Richard Cheek said that he would follow through with Steve Kidder at McLean on the wording of the supplementary preservation agreement for the stone walls and the gatehouse on the McLean property. Members agreed to assign one or two people to follow each of these three components of the reconstruction: landscape, wires and lighting, and McLean property issues. Linn Hobbs suggested that the Commission schedule a meeting with new Town Manager Tom Younger and Community Development Director Glenn Clancy. Richard Cheek will schedule the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Commission's May meeting were approved.

Minutes recorded by Paul Bell and Sharon Vanderslice.