

## **Belmont Historic District Commission**

Jan 4, 2007  
Meeting Minutes  
Town Hall

**Commission Members attending:** Co-chair Richard Cheek, co-chair Lydia Ogilby, Paul Bell, Peter Gunness, Linn Hobbs, Richard Pichette, Nancy Richards, Lisa Harrington, Arleyn Levee

1. Update on the Preservation Restriction for the Central Fire Station and on the role the BHDC will play in the process of the building's rehabilitation.

Richard Cheek and Richard Pichette met with Town Counsel Kathy O'Donnell to review the issues raised at our last meeting regarding the Land Development Agreement for the Central Fire Station. Ms O'Donnell said that the referenced Preservation Restriction attached to the LDA was based on the Mass Historical Commission prototype document and that as the designated Grantee, the BHDC would have the authority to review and approve the plans for the rehabilitation of the Fire Station before any building permit could be issued. After this group reviewed specific document issues/questions, all in attendance were satisfied. A revised/annotated Preservation Restriction will be arriving soon for BHDC review.

2. Update on the preservation of Our Lady of Mercy Church and its Rectory and on the planning for the entire site.

Our Lady of Mercy Church is still on the market. The local neighborhood group is working with Belmont's town planner to develop an appropriate 40R overlay district for said site.

3. Update on the development of Zone 3 at McLean Hospital.

ARC representatives will meet with Richard Cheek, Mike Smith and Paul Bell this month to review past agreements and related construction documents as they are planning to move forward on the project this year.

4. Discuss progress in the drafting of a demolition delay by-law for Belmont

The discussion focused on which organization (Planning Bd. or BHDC) should take the lead in drafting a demolition delay by-law. It was generally felt that the

Planning Board should lead this task with consultation with the BHDC. Richard Cheek will talk to Karl Haglund of the Planning Bd. to get his thoughts on this referenced issue.

5. Other old and new business

\*Arleyn Levee noted that the recent Pleasant St. construction work is in close proximity to existing field stone walls and expressed concern. The BHDC will verify with the Town that the original specifications to the project, that protects said walls, are still part of the contractor's scope of work.

\*The question was asked as to the name of the architect selected by the new owners for the Central Fire Station renovation work. Also, the project schedule and scope of work were requested by the group. Richard Cheek will ask the Town for an update.

The next BHDC will be on Wed. Feb. 7 at 7pm.

Minutes taken by Paul Bell