

Shrewsbury Historic District Commission Minutes
Richard D. Carney Municipal Office Building
100 Maple Ave
Shrewsbury, MA
June 25, 2020
4:00 pm

Members Present: Chairman, John Campbell, Keith Baldinger, Nancy Burnett, Kristine Gustafson, Don Hutchins, Allyn Taylor, Melanie Petrucci

Guests: Jim Smith, Chris Williams

Chairman John Campbell called the meeting or order at 4:02 PM and read the remote participation script verbatim.

All Historic District Commission members and guests listed above confirmed they were in attendance.

1. Review/approve minutes of the January 23, 2020 meeting
Motion to approve (Ms. Petrucci) Second (Mr. Taylor) on a roll call vote: Mr. Baldinger- yes, Ms. Gustafson- yes, Mr. Hutchins- yes, Mr. Taylor- yes, Ms. Petrucci- yes, Ms. Burnett- yes, Mr. Campbell- yes. Approved 7-0.

2. Act on Certificates of Appropriateness

a. First Congregational Church with Chris Williams, Church Representative

Mr. Williams presented a COA regarding fence to be installed on west side of church near kitchen, 25 ft. by 18 ft., 38 inches high, to enclose a play area.

Motion to approve (Mr. Hutchins) Second (Mr. Taylor) on a roll call vote: Mr. Baldinger- yes, Ms. Gustafson- yes, Mr. Hutchins- yes, Mr. Taylor- yes, Ms. Petrucci- yes, Ms. Burnett- yes, Mr. Campbell- yes. Approved 7-0.

Mr. Williams presented a COA regarding a 3 ft. high by 4 ft. wide white fence to be installed next to AC unit on the southeast, to protect garden plants, visible in part from Church Rd. Motion to approve (Mr. Taylor) Second (Ms. Burnett) on a roll call vote: Mr. Baldinger- yes, Ms. Gustafson- yes, Mr. Hutchins- yes, Mr. Taylor- yes, Ms. Petrucci- yes, Ms. Burnett- yes, Mr. Campbell- yes. Approved 7-0. Chairman Campbell signed both COA's on behalf of the Commission.

b. 10 Prospect Street - Slocumb House with Paul Little, Owner- The homeowner was unable to attend. Rescheduled to next meeting.

3. Ward Monument and Gates

Sub-committee report on findings and recommendations to preserve signage and monument history to include funding sources and locations for plaques.

Members of the subcommittee gave reports. Ms. Burnett reported on the transcribed inscriptions based on information provided by Paula Lupton, Curator at the Ward House. Mutual consensus regarding the text on the four individual bronze plaques was reached. Motion to approve content (Ms. Petrucci) Second (Ms. Burnett) on a roll call vote: Mr. Baldinger- yes, Ms. Gustafson- yes, Mr. Hutchins- yes, Mr. Taylor- yes, Ms. Petrucci- yes, Ms. Burnett- yes, Mr. Campbell- yes. Approved 7-0.

Ms. Burnett will contact Erie Landmark for quotes on plaques and rosettes and will forward to all. Mr. Smith reported that Ms. Lupton is the main conduit for Artemas Ward funding. Mr. Baldinger, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Smith will follow up with Ms. Snell. Mr. Baldinger and Mr. Taylor will set up a meeting for a presentation to the Cemetery Commission with all related parties. It is hoped that installation may take place in late 2020 or early 2021.

4. Proposal for “Historic District” signs at Artemas Ward House and Route 140 N near Library

Chairman Campbell will follow up on the roadside marker on Route 140 North with the Town Manager. Jim Smith has contacted Harvard regarding the Ward House double sided roadside marker as part of his proposal.

5. Discussion on Town Meeting warrant article on Community Preservation Act. No action taken as the Historic District Commission.

6. Discussion of updated HDC brochure and website link

The HDC page on the town website will be updated to include photographs and information about the specific locations in the historic district and link to a trifold brochure also available in print at the Town Hall. Ms. Gustafson will create a draft. Ms. Petrucci will collaborate. It will be shared and discussed at the next meeting.

7. Reorganize Committee for new fiscal year

This will be the first item on the agenda at next scheduled meeting. Chairman John Campbell will not seek reappointment

after two terms of service. Ms. Gustafson and the Committee expressed appreciation to Mr. Campbell for his service to the Commission and dedication to preserving the character and landmarks of the Historic District for the benefit of everyone in Shrewsbury. The Board of Selectmen will provide notice of the vacancy, request letters of interest, and appoint a new member to the Commission.

8. Other business/ adjourn

a. Date of next meeting- Aug. 27, 2020 at 4:00 PM

b. Motion to adjourn (Ms. Petrucci) Second (Mr. Hutchins) on a roll call vote: Mr. Baldinger- yes, Ms. Gustafson- yes, Mr. Hutchins- yes, Mr. Taylor- yes, Ms. Petrucci- yes, Ms. Burnett- yes, Mr. Campbell- yes. Approved 7-0.

Adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristine Gustafson
Secretary