

Local Historic District Study Committee Meeting
5/11/10 5:30 pm
Second Floor Conference Room, Town Hall

PRESENT: Jerry Guidera, Phillip Shaver, James Wald, Lynda Faye, Wendy Kohler, Bill Gillen; and Nathaniel Malloy (Planning Dept.)

ABSENT: Tini Sawicki

Announcements and minutes:

1. Jim Brassord reported to J. Tucker that the Amherst College trustees are not in favor of a Local Historic District; they do not want to have another obstacle to their development.
2. No minutes were reviewed.

Old Business:

1. Timeline was established as being the Annual Town Meeting of spring 2011, which requires a warrant to be issued (at the latest) at the end of January which ultimately requires our preliminary report to be submitted by August/September to the Massachusetts Historical Commission and Amherst Planning Board for approval.
2. A survey will be prepared by J. Guidera and J. Wald to send out to residents and owners in the district. We'll review a draft of this at the committee's next meeting to be distributed at a public meeting of the proposed district property owners on June 15.
3. P. Shaver will prepare a draft bylaw for review at our next meeting to be finalized for the public meeting on June 15.
4. Educational and historic materials will be assembled by W. Kohler and L. Faye for June 8 for presentation on June 15 at the public meeting.
5. The public meeting will be June 15 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. either at the Amherst Women's Club (set up by J. Guidera) or at Town Hall (Nate will reserve).
6. Other towns with historic districts were noted: Northampton, Belchertown, Newton, Cambridge, and Concord.
7. It was noted that a local historic district could have prevented the demolition of the Lessey House (on Spring Street) last week by the Knights of Columbus. At the very least, the local historic district could have delayed demolition until sufficient plans were drafted indicating what would occupy the space.
8. It also hoped that Scott Merzbach will write an article in the Gazette between June 8 and 15.
9. Next meeting: Tuesday, June 8, 2010, 5:30 to 6:30 pm., 2nd floor Town Hall, small conference room.

Respectfully submitted,



William Gillen, Clerk
cc: Committee