

**Local Historic District Study Committee Meeting**  
**10/26/10**  
**First Floor Conference Room, Town Hall**

PRESENT: Jerry Guidera, chair, James Wald, Philip Shaver, Wendy Kohler, Bill Gillen; Member of the public, Tom Ehrgood; Nathaniel Malloy (Planning Dept.)

ABSENT: Lynda Faye, Tini Sawicki

**Announcements and minutes:**

Announced by Phil Shaver: The book, Harvesting Amherst will be out before Christmas, a large history book with many illustrations.

Public comments: Tom Ehrgood was encouraged to send a written contribution and assured that any comments will be carefully considered. The chair also suggested that Tom wait until the rules and regs, which are currently being reviewed, have settled down. Jerry noted that we have missed our deadline (fall 2010) so the committee now has more time to prepare for Town Meeting.

Handouts: Minutes of Oct. 6 meeting; draft Rules and Regulations; Agenda dated 10/26/2010. The minutes were approved.

**Old Business:**

Review of draft Rules and Regulations (received 10/25/2010):

3.2.1: Discussion of “five working days” that building commissioner has to issue a certificate of non applicability on behalf of the commission. It was agreed that this is acceptable. Next step: ask staff for their comments.

3.2.2: This sentence was deleted as being unnecessary and the words, “as promptly as possible” might lead to false expectations.

3.2.3: After discussion it was left a separate application form from the building permit is reasonable. It is expected that the form will be determined by the commission and that it will change from time to time.

3.2.4: We agreed to waive the proposed filing fee (\$50) altogether for those “lucky” enough to be within the district and come under the jurisdiction of the commission.

3.5: After discussing decision and appeals options (3.6), the board again heard from the public (Tom Ehrgood) before adjourning until its next meeting.

Tom Ehrgood’s comments: (1) the building permit application is typically filled out by the building contractor; the Historic Commission form should be filled out by the applicant, not a contractor; (2) although we are trying very hard to make it simple, you can’t make some things simple; and (3) regarding the deliberations of 3.5 and 3.6 decisions and duration, it might be better to simply cross reference to Article 8 of the Bylaw.

Next meeting: November 9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted.

William Gillen, Clerk