


Members Justin Caron, Chair Christine M. Cochrane, Vice Chair Kathleen A. Birtwell Jennifer Karnakis Roger F. Turner, Jr.		Walpole Historical Commission Walpole Town Hall 135 School Street Walpole, MA 02081
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<http://www.walpole-ma.gov/walpole-historical-commission>

A meeting of the Walpole Historical Commission was held on December 17, 2018 at Walpole Town Hall, Room 116.

The following members were in attendance:

Justin Caron, Regular Member, Chair
Christine Cochrane, Regular Member, Vice Chair
Roger Turner, Regular Member
Kathleen Birtwell, Regular Member
Jenn Karnakis, Associate

The following member(s) was not in attendance: None

The following guests were in attendance: Sam Obar, former Chair

Mr. Caron called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm.

Summary

*** Mr. Turner mentioned that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new senior center is coming up soon. He added that a formal name will be given to the new building.**

*** Mr. Caron had a number of general questions about the administration and routine functioning of the Walpole Historical Commission. A discussion ensued.**

*** Mr. Obar, former Chair -- who is leaving town to pursue new business opportunities -- advised that it is important to ensure that the Inspector's Office notify us of new demolition applications. Once**

we receive a *completed* application, the timetable begins. We then have fifteen working days to email the applicant requesting a site visit...complete the site visit (without discussion at the site proper)...and hold a meeting. At the meeting, the merits of the application are discussed and if the building is not deemed historically or architecturally significant by the Commission, then we notify the applicant and Inspector of the decision.

If it is determined that the property needs to be preferably preserved, however, we make the same notifications and also schedule a public hearing within twenty working days of the decision.

- *Notification of the hearing must be published in the newspaper at least seven days before it occurs.

- *The agenda must be posted with the Town Clerk.

- *At the hearing, testimony from the public is taken, followed by a decision by the Commission to either release the property or delay its demolition. The applicant and Inspector are formally notified.

- * The posting of minutes was next discussed. Mrs. Birtwell will send them to Mr. Caron and the other Commission members for correction or comment. If none, Mr. Caron will file them with the Town Clerk and put them on the WHC website. Optimally, the minutes should be generated within a month of the meeting.

- * Our quorum is three members, all of whom must be in the room. We plan to meet the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm with locations to be announced.

- * The group thanked Mr. Obar for his years of service and wished him well in his new ventures, adding that we would all be glad to see him when he returns to Walpole for visits.

Adjournment

At 7:41 pm Mr. Caron made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Cochrane seconded the motion. Favorable Action 4-0-0

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Birtwell, Regular Member