

APPROVED MINUTES

Members

Samuel D. Obar, Chair
Christine M. Cochrane, Vice Chair
Mark G. Almeda
George B. Ransom
Roger F. Turner, Jr.
Kathleen A. Birtwell, Associate
Melissa Totten, Associate



Walpole Historical Commission

Walpole Town Hall
135 School Street
Walpole, MA 02081

A meeting of the Walpole Historical Commission was held on December 1, 2016 at the Walpole Town Hall, Room 116.

The following members were in attendance:

Samuel D. Obar, Regular Member, Chair
Christine M. Cochrane, Regular Member, Vice Chair
Mark G. Almeda, Regular Member
George B. Ransom, Regular Member
Roger F. Turner, Jr., Regular Member
Melissa Totten, Associate Member

The following members were not in attendance:

Kathleen A Birtwell, Associate Member

The following guests were in attendance:

Carl Swanson, 1000 West Street aka Assessor's Map 838, parcel 63, Town of Walpole
Timothy Higgins, Edgewood Development - 1034 East St. / former L.F. Fales Machine Company
John O'Leary

Chairman Sam Obar called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

• Public Hearing on Edgewood Development's application for demolition of properties at 1034 East Street.

George Ransom makes a Motion to open Public Hearing regarding demolition application for 1034 East Street, the former L. F. Fales Machine Company. Roger Turner seconds the Motion. The Motion passes 4-0-1 (Mark Almeda abstained).

The Commission discusses whether to preferably preserve the building historically known as L.F. Fales Machine Company at 1034 East Street.

Mr. Obar reads his own prepared commentary to the assembly and enters it into the record.

(Attachment A). Mr. Turner states that the foyer is gorgeous and important in representing structures of productive industry in the history of the Town. Mr. Higgins states that his company is experienced in rehabilitating historic structures, and is knowledgeable in negotiating rights for re-sale. Mr. Ransom observes the building's significance, but is not certain that the only option is to preserve it in whole. Mr. Almeda assents that parts of the building are decrepit, that outbuildings along Glenwood Avenue have serious structural damage or have been over-modified.

Nevertheless, the site visit revealed a rare and significant timber-framed industrial building facing East Street. Mr. Almeda states that the building containing the machine shop and original offices is both architecturally and historically significant with original doors, floors and even hardware of the time. This building is one of only two remaining timber-framed factory structures in Walpole, the other being on Diamond Street.

Mark Almeda makes a Motion that:

The one-story building(s), historically known as the L.F. Fales Machine Shop, with the second story Fales offices at the corner of East and Elm Streets and defined as follows: approximately one hundred and sixty feet along East Street and forty-eight feet along Elm Street, should be preferably preserved.

Ms. Cochrane seconds the Motion. The Motion passes 3-1-1. (Mr. Obar opposed, Mr. Turner abstained.)

Mr. Swanson enters at 7:35 pm.

Mr. Higgins expressed dismay at the vote and stated that it is not practical or financially possible to renovate. Mr. Almeda stated that he understands the predicament, but the Commission is appointed by the Town to preserve its historic structures.

Mr. Higgins asks when he can expect a written decision. Mr. Obar answers that a letter will be sent to the Building Commissioner within 5 days, per the bylaw.

Ms. Cochrane makes a Motion to close the Public Hearing. Mr. Ransom seconds the Motion. The Motion passes 4-0-1. (Mr. Almeda abstained.)

Mr. Higgins departs at 8:00 pm.

• The Commission is to take a vote on the architectural/and or historical significance of the barn at 1000 West Street.

Mr. Obar reads a letter received from Nina B. Staley of the Second Home Family DayCare at 1025 West Street into the record [Attachment B]. Ms. Staley states in a portion of the letter that "At no time, did I, owner of Second Home Family DayCare have and (sic) verbal or written correspondence with anyone concerning the barn that was taken down on West St."

Mr. Swanson stated that the letter is not accurate.

Mr. Swanson stated that he did not demolish the barn. “No, I did not demolish it,” and stated “I pushed the front wall over.” Ms. Totten stated that per the definition of demolition in the bylaw, it was demolished.

George Ransom makes a Motion that:

The barn at Assessor’s Map 838 Parcel 63 is architecturally and/or historically significant.

Ms. Cochrane seconds the Motion. The Motion passes 3-0-2 (Mr. Turner and Mr. Obar abstained.)

• Mr. Obar opens discussion on Enforcement actions defined in the Town of Walpole bylaw in Chapter 349 Section 8.

Discussion on Enforcement concludes and Mark Almeda makes a motion that:

The Historical Commission authorize enforcement of bylaw Chapter 349 Section 8 of the Town of Walpole pertaining to the demolished barn at Assessor’s Map 838, parcel 63, Town of Walpole.

Ms. Cochrane seconds the motion.

Before the vote, the Commission discusses whether the Enforcement bylaw requires a two-year moratorium on permitted building, or might be otherwise interpreted to allow permitting before September 9, 2017, one year after Mr. Swanson applied for the demolition permit.

Mr. Almeda withdraws his Motion.

Christine Cochrane makes the Motion that:

The Historical Commission authorize enforcement of bylaw Chapter 349 Section 8 of the Town of Walpole pertaining to the demolished barn at Assessor’s Map 838, parcel 63 Town of Walpole. No building permit and shall be issued with respect to the premises of the barn for 1 year or until September 9, 2017.

Mr. Almeda seconds the Motion. The Motion passes 3-0-2. (Mr. Turner and Mr. Obar abstained)

Mr. Obar will write a letter to notify the Building Commissioner of the WHC decision, and will request an opinion by Town Counsel as to the strict definition of *bylaw Chapter 349 Section 8 of the Town of Walpole.*

Mr. Swanson departs at 8:30 pm.

• Chairman Obar calls for discussion of other business.

The Commission wishes to spend more time at the next meeting on the Barns of Walpole project proposed by Mr. Almeda and preliminarily researched by Mr. Ransom.

Regarding the invitation by the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds to submit names and short biographies of notable landowners of Walpole to them for their new website project, Ms. Totten asks to add one or two submissions to augment the profiles already drafted by Mr. Ransom. It is agreed that she will research other notable landowners and draft biographies, and that others may continue to be added.

Mr. O'Leary departs at 8:45.

Mr. Obar states that the Commission will revisit the Registry of Deeds project at the next meeting.

Mr. Turner makes a Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Cochrane seconds the Motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

The meeting adjourns at 9:07 pm.

THE WALPOLE TIMES

Established 1915

JOHN J. FITZHENRY, Editor
GARRETT H. DALTON, Publisher
JOHN H. WHITE, Assistant—Tel. 354-J
PAUL R. CROWLEY, Business and Advertising Manager

Published Weekly Every Friday
By the Walpole Press I. O. O. P. Building, Walpole
OFFICE HOURS—Daily 8 to 5—Tuesday and Wednesday evenings 7 to 9
Telephone Walpole 242

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office, Walpole, Mass., Under Act of Congress of March 3, 1877.

TERMS: Single Copies 5 Cents One Year \$2.00
The TIMES assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of any advertisement in which a typographical error occurs if the error affects the value of the same.

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Walpole, Mass., September 23, 1938

EDITORIAL COMMENT

MISREPRESENTATION. All our life we have wondered, and so long as life lasts we expect to keep on wondering why it is that so many persons, who should be leaders of thought, resort to chicanery in their defense of the capitalistic system and their efforts to continue that system indefinitely.

Thomas Paine, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Patrick Henry, George Washington and the other leaders of thought in revolutionary times, not only used every possible means to make their arguments clear, but took every possible precaution to prevent prevarication or equivocation. That may be one of the reasons why they were successful, and why their names have been permanently engraved on the nation's honor roll and the imperishable page of history.

These men were advocates of reform. They did not feel that they were obliged to die under imperialism because they had been born under it. And yet, imperialism, the condition from which they sought to rid themselves, was not, and is not, an evil thing. It is still working out very satisfactorily in Canada, for example.

It may be that the defenders of imperialism in that distant day resorted to subterfuges similar to those used by the defenders of capitalism today. If they did, it availed them little, for they and their evasions, are buried beneath the passing years, their graves unmarked and their names forgotten; and it may be that history will again repeat itself.

Ex-President Herbert Hoover says: "A few drops of socialism or fascism are poison to private enterprise. The government goes into less than ten per cent of the power business. At once the investor fears to hazard his capital and men lose their jobs."

Mr. Hoover may have been honest in his intentions not to fool anybody when he made that statement, but we would not believe in the honesty of his intentions if he were to swear to it by all the oaths known to civilized man.

He knows that millions of men lost their jobs while he was President, long before the government went into the power business; and he knows that the government went into the power business and into other businesses to make work for men who had been thrown on the bricks by industry.

But it is not so much on that point we quarrel with the ex-president as on the insidious way in which he blends "socialism" and "fascism" into a single monster of destruction.

No one knows better than he that these two "isms" are direct political opposites, just as much so as fire and water or black and white. He knows that fascism gives all power to one man, while socialism gives no power to any one man, but in his advocacy of the cause in which he is financially interested, he blends the two in such a way as to confuse, if not entirely mislead many who hear or read his words.

Verily the cause must be in a bad way, when our ex-president is obliged to resort to such methods to bolster it up.

It is disheartening to find a man of Hoover's type stooping so low.

J. J. F.

L. F. Fales Machine Company Serves Many Leading American Industries

L. F. FALES MACHINE CO.

In the year 1910 automobile was still rare enough to be objects of interest and on one day to that year a good many Walpole people were undoubtedly surprised to see a Peerless car with a Cleveland, Ohio registration drive into the yard of the Fales Machine Shop. This car had been driven from the Peerless automobile factory in Cleveland for the purpose of installing in it a self-starter which was built for the Gray & Davis Company at the Fales Shop.

This was the first self-starter in commercial use and many thousands of them were later built for the Gray & Davis Co. This incident is but one of a number of interesting facts in connection with the Walpole industry now known as the L. F. Fales Machine Company.

The Company, which was incorporated in 1936, is the outgrowth of the business begun by Mr. Lewis F. Fales in a small room at the plant of the Lewis Baiting Company. All the supervisory force and a large proportion of the employees are stockholders of the present company. The business was established under the name of "L. F. Fales, Machinist" in the year 1884 primarily for the purpose of building special machinery and doing necessary machine work on existing equipment at the plant of the Lewis Baiting Co. and F. W. Bird & Son, two of the leading industries of Walpole at that time.

The business grew to such an extent that within two or three years larger quarters became necessary and the first unit of the present plant on East Street was built. Additions were made to the original building from time to time and at present, exclusive of the offices and drafting room located on the second floor and the stock and storage rooms in the basement, there are 21,856 square feet of floor space in the machine shop building. The working area is divided into three distinct sections with light wells so located that each section receives natural daylight on all four sides, good light, combined with large ventilators installed last year, making pleasant working conditions.

Starting with a few machine tools driven by a steam engine the equipment now comprises a wide variety of efficient tools, including lathes, planers, grinders, shapers, millers, boring mills, drill presses, punch press, hand saw, wood planer, circular saw, air compressors, etc., driven by 29 motors having a combined rating of 296 H.P.

As the amount of power used is a fair indication of business progress, it is interesting to note that the average amount of power used per month in 1922 was 11, 177 kilowatt-hours, in 1929 it was 14,091 kilowatt-hours, and in 1937 it was 27,679 kilowatt-hours. The increase in man power and payroll has kept pace with the increase in the use of power, eighty more persons being employed in 1937 than in 1929 at 75% increase in payroll—surely a worthy contribution to the welfare of Walpole.

The business actually has five main divisions, the Foundry, Contracting and Jobbing Machine Work, Fales Multiple Needle Sewing Machines, Fales Paper Slitters and Rewinders, and a newly developed product the Fales Simplified Printer.

FOUNDRY

The original foundry building was erected in 1907 and it also has been

enlarged from time to time until it now covers a floor area, exclusive of pattern, flask, and sand storage, of 18,445 square feet. The capacity of the Foundry was further increased in 1921 by the installation of a larger cupola which has a melting capacity of approximately 10 tons per hour.

The Foundry specializes in high grade, soft gray iron, semi-steel and mixtures containing nickel, chrome and molybdenum. Using the best materials that money can buy in moulds made by skilled workmen with competent supervision and rigid inspection, the Fales Foundry has built up a reputation of which it is proud.

The Foundry produces castings for the machines manufactured in the Fales Machine Shop and also for a number of well-known New England manufacturers of oil burners, electric motor housings, valves, addressing machine parts, show machinery, button hole sewing machine, cloth folding machines, pressing machines, and numerous other items.

Not only has the foundry kept pace with the improvements in foundry practice by the use of the alloy, nickel, chrome and molybdenum for the making of better and stronger castings, but also regularly uses the services of a consulting metallurgist and chemist to check analysis and improve the finish of castings, a sandblast room and dust collector was designed and installed about three years ago. This so-called home-made installation is so effective that the State Department of Public Safety has referred to it as a model, sending other foundrymen to view it and has taken photographs of it, and in conjunction with the U. S. Dept. of Labor has taken moving pictures showing the air in the room to be clean even when two blast nozzles were open full blast. A further proof of the excellent working conditions in the Foundry is the fact that the Mass. Baiting & Inspection Bureau last year granted the L. F. Fales Machine Company a reduction of 19% in their workmen's Compensation Insurance Rate, which at that time was the largest reduction given by the Bureau to any foundry in the State.

CONTRACTING AND JOBBING MACHINE WORK

This part of the business was started to take care of the repair work for the local manufacturers and at the present time finds not only all of the Walpole industries but many of the manufacturers in adjacent towns calling on the Fales Shop for any form of mechanical work which cannot be handled by their own Maintenance Dept.

The Company has always maintained the policy of holding its personnel and equipment available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week and many times they are called upon on a Saturday or Sunday or late at night to do emergency work which will enable a customer to have his ma-

chines back into production promptly.

From doing work on already existing equipment, it was only a short step to the building of new machinery to the customers' specifications and the following list of items, selected because of their local interest, there are a number of Fales built machines, as was also the Bird Screen, Wandel Screen, Packaging and Sealing Machinery, etc. now made at the Bird Machine Company.

At the Lewis Baiting Co., which later became the Lewis Mfg. Co. and is now known as the Kendall Mills, there are a number of Fales built machines, among them being the Cotton Ball Machine, Hospital Sponge Machine, Rewinders and other equipment.

The Company's strict adherence to customers' specifications, stringent inspection policy, and their insistence that every machine leaving their plant must do the job for which it was built perfectly have resulted in a list of nationally known customers which would read like a "Who's Who of American Industry."

Among other special machinery built for various customers was the first machine for manufacturing from pulp the familiar paper pie plates that are now in such common use. Another somewhat unusual assignment which was successfully completed was the construction of a machine for the sorting of fish into various sizes before packing. A good deal of the cotton and silk covered rubber thread that is used extensively in the manufacture of garters and similar articles, is made on a machine built in the Fales Shop, and the familiar paper napkin that you may have used at lunch today was probably embossed and folded on a Fales' built napkin machine. Governors for automobile self-starters; machinery for packaging and sealing coffee, soap chips, cereals and other similar articles; machinery for combining Kraft paper and string or sisal to produce re-enforced paper; flocking machines which produce the imitation suede of which raincoats are sometimes made; machinery for the manufacture of crepe paper; machinery for the making of the balls of string which you frequently purchase at stationer's stores; precision grinders for machine tool builders, and lawn mower grinders for the small shop, are only a few items in the large parade of industrial machinery that has been built in the plant during the past 40 years.

This equipment has not been confined to local industry but has been shipped practically all over the world. A short time ago a complete unit for the manufacture of sandpaper, consisting of a Making Machine, Sizing Machine, and other units, was built at the Fales Shop in conjunction with one of their customers and was shipped to France introducing the first machine-made sandpaper in that country. Another interesting shipment to foreign lands recently was that of two lots of irrigation nozzles which went to Guatemala for use on the plantation of approximately 200 of these nozzles, each one capable of spraying an area of about 200 square feet, were used to irrigate a large banana plantation.

MULTIPLE NEEDLE SEWING MACHINES

A person usually thinks of a sewing machine as a small unit such as

used by dressmakers, tailors and shoemakers, etc. so would probably be surprised at the size and weight of a modern High Speed Fales Multiple Needle Machine. The floor space required for the machine shown in illustration is approximately 12 ft. x 12 ft. and this is only a medium size unit and weighs approximately 7000 pounds. The mechanical features have been constantly improved; ball and roller bearings are freely used; many parts are chromium plated and most machines are equipped with individual motor drive.

Each sewing machine is built for a specific job, the number of needles depending on requirements, and the following gives an idea of some of the uses.

For automotive industry—finished upholstery seats and backs, finished panels, burlap pockets for spring units, cotton and sisal hatts between finished upholstery and spring units, insulation under roof and other parts, filterers for air conditioning systems, etc.

For building industry—stitched insulating material such as rock wool, glass wool, kapok, eel grass, hair, felt, wood fibre, etc.

For mattress industry—muslin pockets for spring units; sisal, cotton, curled hair and similar pads to cover spring units; sewing the new rubber insulation used to cover spring units, and more recently the quilting of mattresses thus replacing the older tufts.

Miscellaneous uses would include—quilts, furniture pads, carpet lining, workmen's gloves, refrigerator insulation, concrete curing mats, sleeping bags, etc.

These sewing machines are in use in nearly every State in the Union and in Canada, Porto Rico, England, Norway, Germany, South Africa and Australia, and in every case have been purchased by the leaders of the respective industries.

PAPER SLITTERS AND REWINDERS

The Fales Paper Slitter and Rewinder was originally built for and used by the local paper mills and now enjoys patronage from leading paper converters scattered across the Continent, in Canada, England, and before the Civil War in Spain.

As with all other equipment, these machines have been constantly improved. To mention only a few uses would include slitting paper for insulation of telephone wires and cables, teletype tape on all telegrams, soda straws, paper twine, twisted paper forming onion and fruit bags, gummed paper, etc.

FALES SIMPLIFIED PRINTER

This new development is the most recent addition to the regular line of Fales products and is finding wide acceptance among manufacturers of rubberized fabrics, shoe linings, and similar products. It was designed to provide a simple and inexpensive method of printing trade-marks or other descriptive matter on cloth or textiles produced in a continuous roll, and is so designed that it can be placed directly in the production line.

Although the business was founded by Mr. Fales with little or no capital, his entire fortune at his death was left for charitable and educational purposes—the Charles W. Fales Scholarship at the Walpole High School being a direct result of the growth of this business.

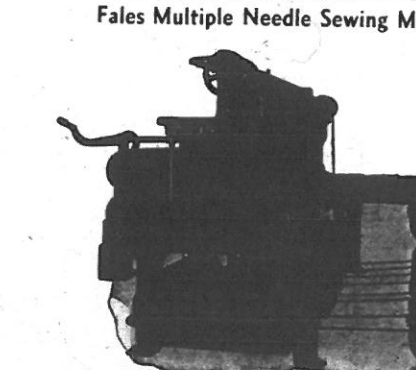
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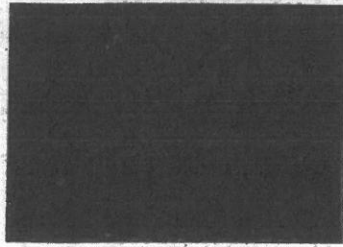
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chines back into production promptly.

From doing work on already existing equipment, it was only a short step to the building of new machinery to the customers' specifications and the following list of items, selected because of their local interest, will give a faint idea of the great variety of equipment that has been built here. Many of the machines now in use at the plant of Bird & Son were built for F. W. Bird at the Fales Shop including most of the present equipment for making shingles, as was also the Bird Screen, Wandel Screen, Packaging and Sealing Machinery, etc., now made at the Bird Machine Company.

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FALES SIMPLIFIED PRINTER

This new development is the most recent addition to the regular line of Fales products and is finding wide acceptance among manufacturers of rubberized fabrics, shoe linings, and similar products. It was designed to provide a simple and inexpensive method of printing trade-marks or other descriptive matter on cloth or textiles produced in a continuous roll, and is so designed that it can be placed directly in the production line.

Although the business was founded by Mr. Fales with little or no capital, his entire fortune at his death was left for charitable and educational purposes—the Charles W. Fales Scholarship at the Walpole High School being a direct result of the growth of this business.

\$3 or \$4 Puts Your Radio In Good Shape
Call Nelson's Sales - Service



INDUSTRIES: Fales

Box 1894

Machinery Builders

Iron Foundries

Worcester South Building
10-4-34

10A: W
#54
A 36

INDUSTRIES: Fales

L.F. Fales Company (photograph)

1. L. F. FALES MACHINE--PICTURES

2. INDUSTRIES--PICTURES

Format: 10x7 3/4" photograph

Location: INDUSTRIES: FALES
picture file & industry compilation

also IOA: W #54 (p. 36)

Donor: Town Hall Rec'd: June 1996

1996 # 6

Library
Westpole Historical Society
Walpole, Mass.

Fales

S. F. Fales Co., East St (Rt #27)

furnace continued to operate. Leach got control of the facility from Drake,⁶⁷ but when Shepard Leach died in an accident in 1832, Leonard Fuller carried on until 1839 when the iron-making came to an end.⁶⁸

The commercially valuable property at the Stop River Falls dam site was passed along to George Campbell who built a paper mill there in 1845 at about the same time that the railroad came through, for which the area, and its train stop, was known for nearly a century. In 1870, the Town of Norfolk was set off from Wrentham and the Stop River Falls neighborhood was taken from Walpole and joined to the new town. The Stop River was no longer the boundary. With railroad consolidation came a new train station, the Highland Grove stop, to serve an amusement park on the shores of Highland Lake built by the railroad in 1876. Then and now people walk down to Highland Lake and pass right by the slag heap, never realizing that at that place there stood a great stone structure in which a mighty fire was contained and from it poured the liquid metal that made people rich.

Squire Miller Fales moved to Boston where he became an agent for area iron founders. A decade later he was in Baltimore MD, once again operating a foundry, and turning a profit. Near the end of his life he returned to Walpole and built a great house atop Powderhouse Hill.⁶⁹

The Fales' family tradition of iron working continued into the later generations when the sons of Squire Miller⁶ Fales worked alongside their father in the Maryland foundry. Then Charles⁷ Fales, son of Silas Fales and employee of Deacon Willard Lewis, established a machine shop in a small room in the Lewis Batting Company building in 1894. Charles Fales was the inventor of the Multiple Needle Sewing Machine,⁷⁰ a large machine, 12'x12', used to sew automobile upholstery, stitched building insulation, for manufacturing mattresses, carpet lining and other uses in heavy industry worldwide.⁷¹ The business was inherited by Lewis F.⁸ Fales (1861-1930) who expanded the business to

⁶⁷ *Norfolk County Deeds*, 101-82 (1831)

⁶⁸ Leonard Fuller (1802-1867) of Attleboro and Lincoln Drake (1794-1872) of Easton were partners in the business. We know that Fuller was making stoves in 1837 in Walpole from the imprint on a stove that was acquired by a dealer in July 2007. Fuller received a patent for the stove in 1837.

⁶⁹ See Charles W. Hardy, et. al, *The Story of Powderhouse Hill*, Walpole Historical Society, 2007.

⁷⁰ Willard DeLue, *The Story of Walpole*, Norwood MA: The Norwood Press, 1925, p.260.

⁷¹ "L.F. Fales Machine Company Serves Many Leading American Industries," *The Walpole Times*, September 23, 1938, p.4.

include a foundry on Glenwood Avenue. From 1907 the foundry focused on medium-weight specialty castings of high-grade soft gray iron with various ferroalloys and industrial sewing machines. The company employed up to 200 employees. The importance of the company lay not only in the weight of its payroll in the local economy but also because it made specialized machinery for local industries, such as Kendall Mills and Bird and Son.⁷²

Although the Fales name is prominent in Walpole's history, the importance of the family as ironworkers has been less well known.

⁷² "L.F. Fales Machine Company Serves Many Leading American Industries," *The Walpole Times*, September 23, 1938, p. 4.

COMMENTS READ INTO THE RECORD BY SAM OBAR

1034 East Street:

1. One of the factors we must take into consideration is what would happen if we voted that it be “preferably preserved.” In this case, the most likely scenario if we voted that it be “preferably preserved”, is that the status quo remains. But the status quo is really just a hodgepodge and mishmash of structures and various businesses that do not have any historic value and in fact take away from the historic value. A lawnmower shop, cabinet shop, and daycare really take away from the structure, in fact, and its historic value. Although we would all like to see the building be occupied by another anchor tenant like the former YMCA, which would bring more life and energy to the building, I can tell you as a commercial real estate broker myself, that the building has many downsides that make it unattractive for potential tenants. There is a reason the YMCA left. If the building was preserved as is, substantial renovations and improvements would be needed to attract more high-quality tenants, but the costs of such renovations would be significant and even then it is not certain that better tenants could be brought there. So, it would be less expensive to just tear it down and build new. One of the major issues that the building has, for example, is flooding problems and its parking lot is not level and is inadequate and inefficient. The highest and best use for this property, in its current form, would be office space, not retail space, and residential, but again substantial renovation would be needed for that. So as far as preserving the mill structure itself, the best case scenario

for “preferably preserving” it is that it will continue to have low quality tenants and the building will continue to decline.

2. Per the bylaw, is there a “reasonable likelihood that either the owner of some other person or group is willing to purchase, preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such building and/or structure”? A couple of comments on this: first, it has remained like this since the 1980s, with no one stepping forward to preserve or rehabilitate the structure during the intervening years. Rehabilitation or preservation of the property would be nice, but in the next six months, it does not appear someone would step forward to propose to do that. The most likely consequence of a six-month delay, therefore, is that the status quo remains. And I think that is a shame because the structure deserves better. A substantial renovation would have to be done to tie all of the structures together, and that just is not practical at this time. If a new building is tastefully designed it would be a beautiful improvement for this former mill property.
3. The bylaw also requires that the owner make “continuing bona fide, and reasonable efforts to locate a purchaser to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such building and/or structure.” In this case, as I discussed before, I believe there is little chance that anybody else will step up to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore this structure. Although we have not been presented with any evidence that the owner is actively seeking buyers to preserve or rehabilitate it, I think this would be futile anyway.

4. There are some artifacts in the basement of the structure that we viewed that are worth preserving for the Historical Society's collection. I also would request that the applicant allow our Commission to take photographs on an ongoing basis of the demolition process and that we be kept informed about any "discoveries" of documents or artifacts that may be hidden in the structure. You never know what you may find when you take down a wall or a ceiling - you may find time capsules, documents stuffed into the wall, or other such artifacts.
5. Finally, as I stated before, the new building should be tastefully designed. I would like to request that the applicant reconsider their proposed design for the final structure. In my opinion, the design that has been presented, is not in keeping with the character of our downtown and does not pay tribute to this historic site. I believe a better design could be achieved. Our Commission would welcome the opportunity to review your final proposed designs before you submit it to the necessary town boards for approval.

Second Home Family DayCare

1025 west St Walpole Ma

To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to my attention that at a recent meeting, Mr Carl swanson refered to a daycare owner as complaining about his barn being a liability. At no time, did I , owner of Second Home Family Daycare have and verbal or written correspondence with anyone concerning the barn that was taken down on West St.

Sincerely yours,

Nina B Staley