

# **HARWINTON HISTORIC DISTRICT & HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

Tuesday, December 20, 2011 – 7:00 pm

**Present:** Peter Brazaitis, Greg Marshall, Roger Plaskett, Carole Romano.

**Absent:** Jennifer Grady, Bree Gurin.

With a quorum established, the meeting was opened at 7:09 pm by Chairman Carole Romano.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the November 2011 meeting were approved as submitted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- No correspondence or applications for certificate of appropriateness have been received this month.
- Carole reported speaking with Attorney Patrick Wall, who was inquiring on behalf of a prospective buyer of a property on Harmony Hill Road. His client was concerned about the limitations set by the Commission. Carole explained how the Commission works under the Conn. State Statutes and the Town Ordinance, and that its intent is to encourage preservation, and to advise and guide new construction or additions to existing buildings. Carole further explained the procedure for granting a Certificate of Appropriateness.

### **T.A. HUNGERFORD MUSEUM**

At its November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Hungerford Board voted to decline joining the Historic District Commission at this time. The feeling was that there was no advantage to joining (ie getting grant money), and their status on the State Register is sufficient for that.

### **“HARWINTON HOUSE”**

Roger reported that the Committee sent a letter to the Selectmen asking for approval to go forward with the site west of Town Hall.

### **SIGNS**

Carole reported that four signs have been delivered to her home and that the bill was submitted to the Town bookkeeper for payment. It was decided to wait until closer to Memorial Day to replace the signs.

### **WEBSITE**

Roger reported 899 hits on the [www.harwintonhistory.com](http://www.harwintonhistory.com) website. A new story on Lois Lenski was recently added.

### **SIGN POLICY**

This November the Commission was remiss in following its own sign policy by allowing in the district political signs exceeding the six (6) square feet limit. A letter was sent to the head of the Republican Town Committee asking for its removal since the election was now over. After lengthy discussion, the Commission agreed that in order to prevent this from happening in future elections, a letter will be sent to both the Democratic & Republican parties to remind them of the District's sign policy. It was also noted that the homeowner will be responsible for the signs removal and it will be up to the Commission to follow through.

Under **Temporary Signs**, subsection Contractors' Signs, the phrase “a limited period consistent with the nature of the work” was discussed. No action taken.

**Harwinton Historic District & Historic Properties Commission**  
**Minutes for Dec. 20, 2011 – Page 2**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- The Commission's 2012 meeting schedule has been submitted to the Town Clerk with copies given to each Commission member.
- The eastern boundary of the district on South Road was discussed and where exactly the division of the back properties lies. Established in 1990, the districts need to be reviewed again, and new maps may need to be drawn up.
- Carole Romano was reappointed as a regular member for a five-year term ending June 30, 2016.
- A motion was made by Roger Plaskett and seconded by Peter Brazaitis to remove the Featured Home display this evening.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Hohensee, Clerk  
Historic District & Historic Properties Commission

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON, CT  
ON *12-28-11* AT *10:22 Am*  
ATTEST: PATRICIA K. WILLIAMSEN, TOWN CLERK