

Meeting Minutes  
Longmeadow Historical Commission  
Thursday, January 20, 2022

The Longmeadow Historical Commission met on January 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Present from the HC were: Tim Casey, Maggy Cohn, Jerrold Duquette, Dave Marinelli, Steve Weiss, Tom King and Bret Lukezic.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM

The minutes from the December 9, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved with minor alterations for grammar.

1. Old Business

a. North Longmeadow Street Intersection Improvements

- i. No update

b. Pre-1901 Survey by Heritage Consulting

i. Phase III Review with MHC and Heritage Consulting

1. Discussion surrounded where the CD and originals for the surveys should be held. Dave said he would reach out to the clerk to determine where the paper copies would go. Two Copies of the CDs would go to the Storrs house, and the library.

ii. New Survey for Additional Properties

1. Tom King answered questions from the CPC at the January 6th meeting. His presentation was well received. The CPC has not decided on the application
2. Responses to Dave's Letter The first response was from the owner of 51 Meadow Road who wrote:

- a. "Dear Ms. Cohn, Thank you for the report on my home at 51 Meadow Road. It is very interesting and the history of the previous owners is quite enjoyable reading. The only feature I did not see was that the section under the shed roof was added at a later date. In each of the upstairs bedrooms there is a small door ( 28"X44") which opens into a small attic space over the addition. In this space the original cedar clapboards are still visible on what was the original outside wall. I don't know if this is of interest, but I

thought I would share it with you. Sincerely,  
Beverly Fisher”

3. The second response was from the owner of 29 Warren Terrace who wrote:
  - a. “Ms. Cohn,

Thank you for your subject Historical Commission letter, with attachments, dated 12/3/21.

We do have some issues/questions/corrections re the ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION. These could be due to not fully understanding the architectural language, but.....

"The ridge of the gabled roof is perpendicular to Warren Terrace".....Is the 'gabled roof' that structure over the dormer located over the screened porch? Because the main roof ridge of the house runs parallel to Warren Terrace;

“A shallow exterior brick chimney is found on the WESTERN elevation”; this is incorrect....the shallow exterior brick chimney is on the EASTERN elevation of the house;

“.....and a large 2.5-story addition extends from the western elevation.” We do not understand this phrase. Any addition to this house we are aware of is a single story sunroom addition on the south side; isn't the '2.5 story addition from the western elevation' the original structure?

And can it be confirmed that **1915** is the year of construction for this house?

Jim Ryan”

Maggy referred the Ryan’s questions to Heritage for clarification.

- iii. We will vote on updating the demo delay list at our next meeting.
- c. The Old Town Hall on Longmeadow Street



suggested that the commission take the first step of reviewing the recommendations of the 1988 plan and trying to assess if any of the incomplete recommendations could be done right now and work on those between now and March. We also acknowledged that we do not have to do a Plan alone - we can call on other entities to assist us, such as the Historical Society.

- h. Maggy thanked Tim for drafting a list of resources for historic home owners that is now on the HC website.
2. New Business
- a. Mailbox
    - i. We received a Season's Greetings card from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. We also received a note from MHC announcing the Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund round 28 applications were now open.
  - b. Certified Local Government
    - i. Tom King attended an informational session about becoming a CLG and recommended that Longmeadow become such a community. The commission unanimously agreed to pursue the matter. Tom will lead the initiative for the HC and Tim will lead for the Historic District Commission and the Building Demolition Committee. The first step will be to get the support of the town manager and then draft a memorandum of understanding between the various town bodies that govern the town's history.
  - c. Creating a National Register Historic District for South Longmeadow Street
    - i. After reviewing the 1988 Plan, Tim noticed that there was a recommendation for the creation of a National Register Historic District for the southern part of Longmeadow Street. He asked Al McKee, who was on the Historical Commission at the time when they were attempting to implement the recommendations, why this was never implemented? Al informed him that this item had been put on the list as a way of preventing the town from making Longmeadow Street a two lane road. Once this threat abated, it became a relatively low priority item and was forgotten about over time. Tim believes it would be a good idea to revive this initiative since the town is going to be conducting major roadwork over the coming decade in this area and creating this district would enhance the commission's ability to preserve the current streetscape. Additionally, by setting up this district, owners of contributing

structures may be eligible for tax incentives for maintaining and restoring their buildings.

- ii. The first step Tim suggested was to send out a letter to property owners in the new proposed district to inform residents of the potential benefits as well as assure them that the HC was not trying to create a local historic district in their area and they could continue to have relative freedom to do what they wanted with their homes. Additionally, these letters would invite these residents to the HC's next meeting so the HC could answer any questions or concerns they may have about the creation of the district. Maggy agreed to send out a letter that will be drafted by Tim in the coming days.

3. Next Meeting February 17, 2022 via Zoom.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M.