

**Camden Historic Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2013**

PRESENT: Members: Meg Barclay, Mark DeMichele, Judy McGuirk, Beedy Parker; Alternates: Susan Snead, Pat Skaling; Volunteers: Ann Sziklas, Kris Mikkelsen; Visitors: Debby Dodge, Deedee Conover; Kerry Hadley

The meeting was called to order By Meg Barclay at 4:00PM

The minutes from May 14 were accepted with minor correction to the Village Green Report: Kris Mikkelsen volunteered to meet with Pat Finnigan regarding the protruding granite paver.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed High Street Zoning Change: Debby Dodge, a resident of High Street, presented the proposed zoning change of a portion of residentially-zoned High Street to a new "B5" Business Zone. The proposed change would allow the expansion of uses in Inns in this district to allow "full service" restaurants, function halls, retail space and salons. As High Street Historic District is on the National Register of Historic Places, and the CHRC's duties include participation in town decisions connected to historic resources (see Article XIII, Section 3, Parts 5, 6, & 10), the Committee made and seconded a motion and unanimously voted to send a letter to the Camden Planning Board commenting on the proposed zoning change in advance of the Planning Board's June 20 meeting, saying:

"Regarding the proposed zoning changes under discussion for the High Street Historic District, which is on the National Registry of Historic Places, the Camden Historic Resources Committee recommends that no changes be made to this historic and residential area of Camden. The Historic Resources Committee believes the proposed changes would adversely impact the historic residential appearance and character of the district."

Camden Opera House Renovations: Kerry Hadley, director of the Camden Opera House, discussed proposed improvements to the Opera House, which may be funded by TIF monies (Tax Increment Funding). Possible projects include: a street level box office, improved exterior illumination, and improved signage. The CHRC was enthusiastic about the ticket window. The CHRC informed Kerry that The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties specifically recommends that new items be clearly new so that the public is not confused as to what is new and what is original (i.e. new light fixtures should not be imitation Victorian fixtures; the ticket window should not try to be old fashioned). The CHRC's chief concern was that the ticket window addition leave the glass façade as symmetrical as possible and any new signage or lighting not damage the historic brickwork. The CHRC made lighting and signage/visibility suggestions.

OLD BUSINESS

Curtis Island Lighthouse Museum: Mark and Deedee Conover reported on their site visit and information gathered at the space. Display options were discussed. A display concept was formulated

involving a background board (affixed to the mortar joints with spacers for air flow) to which laminated copies of ephemera could be velcroed. The displayed items would then be protected gains removal by a second layer of Plexiglas shields on stand-off posts. The museum would also contain a notebook with additional historical information. Deedee and Mark will look for a carpenter/cabinet maker to do the work. Deedee asked for and got volunteers to help with display selection.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Town Manager: no report

Village Green: Judy and Kris reported good weather and successful cleanup, Lynn Snider will head the Village Green committee. The Lions Club is willing to assist in future pre-Memorial Day clean-up efforts, since many Garden Club members are not in town in May. Kris did meet with Town Manager Pat Finnigan regarding the protruding granite paver and fallen section of chain fence.

Archives: Susan reported that Heather Nikki at the C.P. Library believed Nikki had submitted a bill to the town for the digitizing work done. Susan will check to see if the work is indeed complete and the bill submitted in time for the end of the fiscal year.

Harbor Park and Amphitheater: no report

(MORE) OLD BUSINESS

Comprehensive Plan: no feedback since most recent submission on 15-9 through 15-12. Meg will ask Jean White about the CHRC's reviewing the Parks and Rec section on historic parks.

(MORE) NEW BUSINESS

Committee Membership: Susan Snead brought up the future makeup of the committee, who would stay on as Members and Alternates, and question of needing to recruit new members. Meg said she has submitted the paperwork for her re-enlistment. Kris said that she would submit paperwork to join the committee as an alternate. More members will need to re-enlist or be found as 4 remaining members terms expire in 2013: regular member DeMichele and alternates Fitzgerald, Snead, and Skaling.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM

Next meeting: July 9, 2013 at the WSCR

Facilitator: not selected

Minutes: not selected

Respectfully submitted, Beedy Parker & Meg Barclay