

Southborough Historical Commission Public Hearing Minutes

Call to order

A public hearing with the Southborough Historical Commission was held at the Senior Center on October 3, 2016.

Attendees

Attendees included Joe Hubley, Chair, Kate Matison, Vice Chair, Maria Romero Vagnini, Treasurer, Michael Weishan, and Rebecca Deans-Rowe, Secretary.

Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included Amanda Martinot.

Discussion regarding Public Hearing: 28 Boston Road

- 1) Applicant requested a poll of the Board Members regarding whether the house date could be determined with precision. An *informal* poll was conducted as part of ongoing deliberations. The result was 3-2 that the date could not be determined with precision.

There was however unanimous agreement that house at 28 Boston Road could be dated to at least 1925, and was part of an important set of early 20th century houses around St. Anne's. Subsequent discussion clarified that this matter was moot as it seems obvious that at least parts of the structure predate 1925 as proven by assessors records, thereby including it in the bylaw. This interpretation was forwarded to Town Counsel for review.

- 2) Applicant requested a continuation of the public meeting which was denied; the Chair explained to the applicant that it is the obligation of the applicant to bring all relevant materials to the initial public meeting and as no other compelling information was presented by the applicant or promise thereof, further discussion was not warranted. The Chair also explained to the applicant that if Town Counsel decided that the Commission did not have adequate jurisdiction, the Commission's involvement would end.

- 3) Applicant was asked whether he had any evidence or proof that the structure was beyond rehabilitation; he had none.

- 4) Applicant was asked on three occasions what his plans were for the property; in each instance he replied he had "no plans."

Decisions

The Commission voted to preferentially preserve the structure 5-0.

Rebecca Deans-Rowe

Secretary

11/7/2016

Date of approval