

**Minutes**  
**Watertown Historical Commission**  
**Thursday, March 8, 2012**  
**Lower Hearing Room**  
**7:00pm**  
*Adopted April 12, 2012*

**Historical Commission Members Present:** David J. Russo, Jr., J. B. Jones, Marilynne K. Roach, Elisabeth H. Loukas, Thomas Melone, Donald S. Berg,

**Member Absent:** Susan T. Steele,

**Staff Present:** Christopher J. Hayward, Daphne M. Collins, Steve Magoon

**Public Present:** See attached Sign-In Form

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David Russo chaired. The meeting opened at 7:00p.m.

**1. Public Hearing – Demolition Permit – 119 Robbins Road- Garage,**  
Owner/Applicant: James and Paula Bass

Paula Bass, owner of 119 Robbins, informed that her husband and she were renovating the home for their family. The existing house, previously owned by her husband's grandparents, was in need of repair and restoration. The 1920 2-car detached garage needed to be demolished to accommodate an addition which would include an attached 2-car garage. Bass stated that, unfortunately, their former contractor did not do his due diligence to seek HC review before extensive demolition to the garage was done.

Russo inquired if the garage's doors and windows were preserved. Hayward responded that he observed the doors and windows in the dumpster when he and the Building Inspector visited the site during the violation inspection.

David Benson, 198 Bellevue Road, supported the demolition of the garage.

Melone thought the garage was an attractive garage of insufficient value.

Russo thought the original garage was of merit with its windows, doors and clapboard siding intact. However, the existing structure being reviewed lacked those elements and was of no merit. Jones agreed.

**Vote:** Jones moved that the garage at 119 Robbins Road was not preferably preserved. Melone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**2. Watertown Historical Commission Ordinance Update**

No updates. The item is tabled to next month.

**3. February Minutes – Approved.**

#### 4. Old Business

- a. **Sign Replacement of Stolen Markers** – Hayward reported that Quincy Memorial will provide quotes for marker replacements in granite and bronze and installation costs.
- b. **Arlington Street Cemetery Signage** - Roach reported that they continue to make progress on the design for the sign and that a meeting with Tufts is scheduled for April 20th.
- c. **Comprehensive Plan** – Jones suggested that the HC be involved in the Comprehensive Plan and in design aspects of projects being reviewed under the Demolition Permit process. Russo encouraged the HC to attend the Planning Board meetings on projects of concern.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

