

Minutes
Watertown Historical Commission
Thursday, May 10, 2012
Lower Hearing Room
7:00pm
Adopted July 12, 2012

Historical Commission Members Present: David J. Russo, Jr., J. B. Jones, Marilynne K. Roach, Susan T. Steele,

Member Absent: Elisabeth H. Loukas, Thomas Melone, Donald S. Berg,

Staff Present: Christopher J. Hayward, Daphne M. Collins

Public Present: See attached Sign-In Form

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

1. Demolition Permit Review – 73 Piermont Street, demolition of a single family to be replace with a single family colonial with attached garage. Khoren & Tamar Melkonian, owner/applicant

Bernard H. Hammel, engineer and representative for the owner, informed that the house was built in the 1930's of poor quality materials. He noted that the property was run down though sited in a nice neighborhood on a large 9,900 square foot lot. He indicated that the new property would face Piermont Street conforming to the zoning setbacks established.

Angelo O. Ciano, 22 Tappen Avenue, presented a petition from 15 neighbors supporting the demolition proposal.

Jones agreed with the neighbors that the structure was of no architectural merit.

Russo remarked that the structure was built in 1921 and that the original owners were the Wentworths.

Vote: Jones moved to find 73 Piermont Street not preferably preserved. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. 2012 Preservation Awards - Commanders Mansion, May 24 at 7pm.

3. Watertown Historical Commission Ordinance Update

Russo submitted an addition for inclusion to the Ordinance which would define substantial destruction for review and discussion.

2.5 "Substantial Destruction" is the demolition of 25% of the exterior walls of a building or the removal of the roof to be rebuilt with additional living space or a different pitch.

Note: Jones move to adopt the addition of Paragraph 2.5 regarding “Substantial Destruction” to the Watertown Demolition Ordinance. Steele seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. March Minutes – Approved.

5. Old Business

- a. **Sign Replacement of Stolen Markers** – Novaloy signs will be used at the Commander’s Mansion to prevent thievery. The price of the Novaloy signs do not include the installation costs. Granite will be used for the sign replacements at other locations. Quincy Memorial will replace and install the 14 signs for \$5,600. Kelley, Russo & Hayward will meet with Magoon with the finalize list for the 14 markers.
- b. **Benjamin Curtis Plaque** will be unveiled at a ceremony on June 16th at 1pm.
- c. **Veterans’ Markers** – The Town Manager wants all the Veteran Markers that are missing or in disrepair to be repaired. Hayward will meet with the new Veteran’s Agent to discuss.
- d. **Arlington Street Cemetery Signage** - Roach reported that the sign design is near completion. Hayward to check the allowable sponsorship identification for Tufts.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

