

HARTFORD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present & Date their Term is Up: Susanne Walker Abetti (3/21/25), Dennis Brown (3/11/27) and Chair Jonathan Schechtman (1/9/26).

Staff Present: Town Planner Matt Osborn.

Others Present: Selectboard Liaison Lannie Collins.

A hybrid meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 in Meeting Room 2 at the Hartford Town Hall. Chair Jonathan Schechtman called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m.

1. **Public Comments:** Jonathan asked if there are any public comments. There were none.
2. **HHPC Minutes:** Jonathan asked if there are any corrections to the Minutes of July 17th. Dennis Brown noted two corrections. Susanne Walker Abetti noted a correction as well. Dennis made a motion to approve the HHPC Minutes of July 17, 2024 with the noted corrections. The motion was seconded by Susanne and unanimously approved.
3. **Section 106 Reviews:** Matt Osborn reported that he submitted a draft letter on the Railroad Station platform improvements to Jonathan. Jonathan made some suggested changes. Matt will ask Lori Hirshfield to review the draft then send the letter to the Federal Railroad Administration.
4. **Performing Arts History (PAH) Project:** Matt reported that he will be meeting with Planning and Development Director Lori Hirshfield to look at the HHPC budget to see if there are funds for the additional interview for the PAH project.
5. **Historic District Signs:** Jonathan asked about replacing the screws on the historic district signs with something that provides greater security. Matt replied that he will investigate. Matt reported that the West Hartford and Jericho Historic District signs still need to be painted. He will contact the Jericho Community Association to see if they might be able to do it. Matt reported that he will be meeting with Planning and Development Director Lori Hirshfield to look at the HHPC budget to see if there are funds for the additional historic district signs.
7. **Railroad Row Kiosk:** Matt reported that the kiosk project will not get under way until the fall.
8. **World War I & II Monument:** Matt noted that the monument looks great. Dennis reported that the leftover funds will be used for maintenance of the monument and to create another monument to honor veterans of other wars and conflicts. Lannie suggested moving the War Monument at the Town Hall to Veterans Park.
9. **Taft's Flat Historic District Nomination Update:** Jonathan noted that Architectural Historian Brian Knight will be presenting on the Victory Circle story at 6:30 p.m. this evening.
10. **HHPC Openings:** Jonathan noted that there is still one opening on the HHPC. Matt reported that last week, a resident came to the office requesting an application.

11. Announcements:

- a. October Selectboard Presentation: Matt reported that the HHPC is scheduled to go before the Selectboard on October 15th to present an update of the HHPC's work. Matt will put together a powerpoint presentation and Jonathan will present.
- b. 250th Anniversary: Matt reported that the Hartford Historical Society formed a committee to work on the 250th anniversary and that chair Gwen Tuson met with Town Manager John Haverstock and Matt yesterday to discuss ideas. Matt noted that he emailed information from Gwen to the HHPC.

12. Next HHPC Meeting: Jonathan noted that the next HHPC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11th at 5:15 p.m. Dennis reported that he will be out of town.

13. Adjournment: Susanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Dennis and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

14. HHPC Member Terms: Susanne Walker Abetti (3/21/25), Dennis Brown (3/11/27), Vice-chair Pat Stark (3/7/25) and Chair Jonathan Schechtman (1/9/26).