Wakefield Historical Commission Meeting Minutes January 23, 2019

The Wakefield Historical Commission met in the Heritage Room of the Americal Civic Center on January 23, 2019. All members present

Approval of invoice: Wakefield Daily Item \$142.50 for public hearing notice
Noted that as of July 1, the revisions to the demolition delay bylaw, approved at the November Town Meeting, would go into effect, which would cause the applicant to have to pay for the notice of public hearing. (Amendment to bylaw, as orally entered to the town meeting by Dan Lieber, chairman of the Bylaw Review Committee, attached to these minutes.)

Historic House Markers. Discussion of which houses would qualify for a marker. Decision: houses must be 100 years old or older. Homeowner must provide verification of age.

Old Burying Ground. Theft of markers reported to the Chair. This is forbidden by Mass General Laws, Chapter 272m section 73.

Preservation Restriction. We would like to have a system of Preservation Restrictions, in town.. Lynnfield has applied one to the old Center Farm property.

Cannon. Discussion of the fate of the civil war cannon, which has been missing for years. Widely rumored to have been stolen or lost, it is now rumored to be in pieces in various DPW garages. Discussion of whether the cannon were original or not.

4 Chaplains Memorial in the Jewish Cemetery. Discussion

Public Hearing.

At 8:00 the meeting was interrupted to hold a public hearing on the proposed demolition of a carriage house or garage on the property located at 48 Emerson Street.

LEGAL NOTICE WAKEFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to §126-3 of the Code of the Town of Wakefield, the Wakefield Historical Commission hereby gives notice that it will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, January 23rd at 8:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room of the Americal Civic Center, 467 Main Street, Wakefield, Massachusetts, to consider the application of Paolo Incampo to the Building Inspector for permission to demolish the existing carriage house or garage located on the property known and numbered as 48 Emerson Street, Wakefield, Massachusetts.

The purpose of the hearing will be to determine whether the demolition of the said buildings would be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town of Wakefield. All persons are welcome to attend and to offer their comments.

Following the Public Hearing, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENT: DRAFT CHANGES TO THE DEMOLIION DELAY BYLAW:

Draft Town Meeting Article to Revise

Chapter 126 of the General Bylaws

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 126 of the General Bylaws, entitled "Historic Structures", as follows:

- a. by inserting at the beginning of subsection B of § 126-3, entitled "Application for permit; review by Commission," the following:
 - "Promptly after receiving a copy of such application, the Commission shall notify the applicant that if he or she desires to request a waiver of the 6-month demolition delay called for under this Bylaw, then a hearing fee of \$250 must be received."; and
- b. by replacing, in the said subsection B of § 126-3, the words "a copy of such application" with the words "such payment"; and
- c. by replacing the second sentence of § 126-4, entitled "Emergency demolition," with the following: "However, before authorizing any emergency demolition, the Building Inspector shall use reasonable efforts to inform the Chairperson of the Historical Commission of his or her intent to do so."; and

- d. by renumbering § 126-5, entitled "Severability", to § 126-6; and
- e. by adding a new § 126-5, entitled "Enforcement", the text of which shall read as follows:
 - "A. The Commission and the Building Inspector are each specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as they may deem necessary or appropriate to obtain compliance with the requirements of this Chapter 126 and/or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.
 - "B. Any owner of a significant building who demolishes such structure without first obtaining a demolition permit in accordance with the provisions hereof shall be subject to a fine of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300). Each day the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense until a faithful restoration of the demolished significant building is completed or unless otherwise agreed by the Commission.
 - "C. If a significant building is demolished without a demolition permit having been issued in accordance with the provisions hereof, no building permit shall be issued for a period of two years from the date of the demolition on the subject parcel of land or any adjoining parcels of land under common ownership or control unless the permit is for the faithful restoration referred to in § 126-5.B, above, or unless otherwise agreed by the Commission."

or to see what the Town will do about it