

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING
April 21, 2011 7:30 p.m.

Present: James Mercer, Chairman
Dan Bailly
Marilyn Kalish
Pat Ryan
Holly Troiano

MOTION: By Pat Ryan to accept February 17, 2011, meeting minutes.

VOTE: Unanimous

Discussion of Berkshire Film Festival plans to install flags on lightposts as they did in 2010. Pat thought they were attractive and didn't see a problem with the flag installation.

Discussion on two issues regarding the Town Hall property relating to the playground Jane Iredale is donating to the Town.

1. Flag Pole – there are three flag poles at the Town Hall/old Fire House area. Chairman Mercer suggested eliminating one behind the Town Hall and would not be inappropriate since there is already one in front of the Town Hall and one near the Old Firehouse.
2. Consensus of the ones present removal of flag pole nor some of the trees on the property would not be detrimental to the streetscape.
3. David Magadini made several comments about the playground behind the Town Hall. He thought it was a "silly" idea to have a playground since it would limit the use to a certain Segment of the population and not be inclusive. He thought we as a Town should be attempting to do more diverse things in that space – poetry reading, plays, literature reading. The Commission unanimously endorsed the playground project.

Discussion on the creation of the historic district in Housatonic. Chairman Mercer suggested that creating a historic district would be a catalyst for growth. The initiative of the planning board to create an overlay district to deal with the unique circumstances within the mill area to be discussed at the next meeting.

Dan Bailly brought the committee up to speed regarding the task force regarding the Housatonic School. The task force sent out a survey to all property owners within Housatonic and offered to report back regarding the results of the findings at our next meeting.

Dan Bailly brought a book on barns that everyone enjoyed.

Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 17, 2011, at 7:30 p.m.

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