



JAMES J. MERCER
CHAIRMAN

DONALD V. HOWE
CRAIG OKERSTROM-LANG
BARBARA SYER
HOLLY TROIANO

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS

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ALTERNATES:
DANIEL BAILLY
MARILYN KALISH

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

March 15, 2012

Selectmen's Room

Present: James Mercer, Chairman
Barbara Syer, Secretary
Dan Bailly
Don Howe
Craig Okerstrom-Lang
Holly Troiano

MOTION: By Don Howe to approve January 19, 2012, minutes with correction "Sculpture Now display was left too long – not the sculpture itself".

SECOND: Craig Okerstrom-Lang

VOTE: Unanimous

Craig reported the Railroad Street sidewalks to be made even, eight feet each side.
Lights on lamposts
Crosswalk in middle of alleyway
Coal vaults/sidewalk entry to be abandoned
State cut back on finances – maybe three years from now
Bridge Street to School Street to be worked on
Main Street on schedule for 2014 – last review of plans March 29, 2012
Main Street water main work will be April 1 – End of June 2012
Assorted trees – elm, Japanese crabapple
Chairman Tree Comm. Bill Napper must write letter to this Commission asking approval.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

Exemption of \$2,600 property tax
3% of up to \$300,000 – probably about \$78 per property
State starts matching at 3%
To be used for open land, parks – Historic Preservation –not maintenance
Town meeting vote yes or no – then on November election ballot
Would create new board

Old Business:

Chairman Mercer showed some bronze plaques, need to be uniform size, and fit on buildings
Chairman Mercer to consult Historic Commission and Historical Society

New Business:

MOTION: By Chairman Mercer to approve Berkshire International Film Festival attaching temporary banners to streetlights

SECOND: By Craig Okerstrom-Lang

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: By Don Howe to tell CDC to investigate using some of the Preservation grant money to keep and use smokestack from main landmark as a cost of the development

SECOND: By Holly Troiano

VOTE: Unanimous

Craig showed Taconic West Avenue map – suggested position of signs to show limits of Historic District. See attached sheet. Markers to be painted metal with DPW workers to install in the ground.

Don Howe working on APP walking tour of Great Barrington. He is looking for photos showing outside of buildings years ago.

May meeting will be voting on officers. Term expires for Holly Troiano and W. Atwood

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 19, 2012, at 6:30 p.m.