

Historical Commission Minutes 02/21/17

FINAL

Present for the Historical Commission and attending the meeting were: Jane Slater, Chair, Lenny Jason, John Flender, Steve Flanders and Chuck Hodgkinson. Peter Rodegast and David Damroth also attended. Jim Malkin, Steve McGhee and Barbara Armstrong did not attend.

The meeting came to order at 4:00 PM.

David Damroth: Mr. Damroth reviewed plans to renovate and build additions of a bedroom and kitchen to the historic farmhouse at 4 Austin Pasture; Map 33 Lot 85.

Town Master Plan historic resource # 28: Simon Vincent-Austin-Stange-Sands house, opposite # 27i c. 1770-80. One of the last sheep farms at Quitsa. There is a presumed dolmen (called locally a "cromlech") on the property (#18, 21).

Original central chimney replaced by two small stacks in 19th century. Now a transverse stair hall.

M. Damroth said the original house had 12 over 12 windows which are no longer on the house. He would like to install six over six windows. This project is an alteration of the historic structure not a tear down. He also reviewed the proposed elevations dated 2/2/16.

After discussion a motion was made to approve the changes for the Austin House as presented as they are consistent with the architectural integrity of the historic structure. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously with four in favor.

Peter Rodegast for Up-Island LLC; 21 Squibnocket Road; Map 35 Lot 24: Mr. Rodegast explained the Commission approved the renovation and expansion plans for the historic Vytlacil house "Historic Resource # 34: "Captain Hilliard Mayhew-Vytlacil house; 18th century, west side Squibnocket Road" in the Town's Master Plan. He also referred to the Commission's letter approving the planned changes dated January 28, 2016.

Mr. Rodegast explained he would like to make a few changes to the approved plans. The most significant being the relocation of the basement bulkhead door from the east side to the west side deck location. He would also like to retain the two window design on the south gable, change two over one to two over two windows and change to two windows and a door on the west side of the house. After brief discussion a motion was made to approve the changes as presented. The motion was seconded. In discussion the Commission asked to make sure the Zoning Board of Appeals knows the Commission approved the changes. The motion came to a vote and passed unanimously with four in favor.

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 Guest Speaker at the Library: Chuck H. explained that thanks to John Flender's referral, the Historical Commission has the opportunity to sponsor a lecture given by David Foster about his new book documenting the ecological history of the island titled: "A Meeting of Land and Sea". The reserved lecture date at the Library is Wednesday, July 19 @ 5:00 PM.

David is the director of the Harvard forest, an internationally renowned expert on long-term ecological study and a summer resident in West Tisbury.

Correspondence:

Chuck H. read a thank you email from documentary film producer Alex Bushe who is making a film about Nomansland.

Chuck H. also shared a letter and published booklet titled "Megalith to Monolith" from Peter Josephs. The pamphlet documents Mr. Joseph's thoughts on pre-Columbian Fertility Monuments on Martha's Vineyard. He is donating the booklet to the Historical Commission for its reference files. After reviewing the pamphlet a motion was made to send Mr. Josephs a letter thanking him for his donation. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved with four in favor.

Mid-20th century houses: The review of the Assessors list of houses built in the 1950's and 1960's was deferred to the next meeting.

Administration: The November 15, 2016 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as presented by consensus.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 21, 2017 @ 4:00 PM.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Chuck Hodgkinson, CAS.