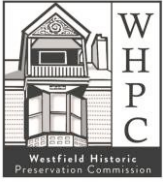




Westfield Historic Preservation Commission



Westfield Historic Preservation Commission (WHPC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 27, 2023

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting of the Commission

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was provided by noticing this meeting in the Westfield Leader, TAP and by posting it on the bulletin board in Town Hall.

Attendees: Maria Boyes (Chair), Jennifer Jaruzelski (Vice-Chair), Kelly Kessler, Carol Tener (Town Historian), Ann Freedman (PB), Katie Spikes, Greg Blasi, Kathryn Reed, Alt #1, Maryellen McVeigh, Alt #2

Absent: Jacqueline Brevard, Mary Anne Healy, Mark LoGrippo (TC), Barton Ross (HPO)

Approval of minutes: January 23, 2023 A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jennifer Jaruzelski and seconded by Ann Freedman. Motion carried with one abstention.

NEW BUSINESS

The meeting began with the annual “meet and greet” session with an introduction of Commission Members to members of the public attending.

A Public Hearing on Proposed Historic Designations was held relating to the following three properties:

1. 3 Stoneleigh Park
2. 5 Stoneleigh Park
3. 18 Stoneleigh Park

Prior to individual discussions of the properties, Carol Tener, the Town Historian, provided an overview of the history of the Stoneleigh Park including its designation on the National Historic Register by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service. The importance of these properties receiving local designation to ensure the highest level of protection was also discussed.

3 Stoneleigh Park: Piercy-Thomas House ca. 1907. Carol Tener provided an overview of the property with illustrations. Members of the commission had no questions relating to the nomination.

The meeting was then opened to the Public. Christine Boss of 20 Stoneleigh Park inquired how subdivision of the property affected the designation as a historic property. Tom Jardim (Town Attorney) responded and stated any subsequent construction would fall under the designation.

The meeting was closed to the public. Commission members determined the property met the criteria set forth in section 5HB of the ordinance and a motion to forward the nomination to Town Council was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. The recommendation will be forwarded to Town Council.



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5 Stoneleigh Park: George Davis Beattys House ca. 1911. Carol Tener provided an overview of the property with illustrations. Members of the commission had no questions relating to the nomination.

The meeting was opened to the public. Barbara Gigon, a former resident of the house, shared her recollections of growing up in the house.

The meeting was closed to the public. Commission members determined the property met the criteria set forth in section 5HB of the ordinance and a motion to forward the nomination to Town Council was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. The recommendation will be forwarded to Town Council.

18 Stoneleigh Park: ca.1928. Carol Tener provided an overview of the property with illustrations. Members of the commission had no questions relating to the nomination.

The meeting was opened to the public. Homeowner and HPC Member Katie Spikes addressed the meeting discussing the importance of protecting this historic neighborhood and its importance to the Westfield community.

The meeting was closed to the public. Commission members determined the property met the criteria set forth in section 5HB of the ordinance and a motion to forward the nomination to Town Council was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. The recommendation will be forwarded to Town Council.

Consideration of the format for plaques for designated properties was discussed and tabled for later discussion.

Old Business

“Build Westfield” in Legos

Jennifer Jaruzelski provided a recap of the *Build Westfield* event held February 11th. The event was a resounding success and sold out within a week. The event generated interest in Westfield’s historic buildings and highlighted the importance of preservation for a young audience. The Commission discussed making *Build Westfield* an annual event and will be collaborating with the Recreation Department to repeat this highly successful event.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jennifer Jaruzelski and seconded by Carol Tener. Motion was carried unanimously.

Adjournment was followed by presentation by local architect, Stoneleigh resident, and longtime Planning Board member Anastasia Harrison on the history of Stoneleigh Park.