

WEST TISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: Monday March 14, 2022  
Meeting at 10:30 AM

Attending: Sean Conley, Anne Fisher, Mark Mazer, Nancy Dole, Josh Gerhard, Charles Kernick

Also Attending: Jen Rand, Skip Manter, Kathy Logue from Howes House Committee

We met to discuss a path forward.

Agreed that The HHC and the HDC should work cooperatively to seek a solution that honored the bylaw and the character of the historic district and addressed the needs of the larger community.

The issue of demolition was discussed at length. One member felt that it would be the least expensive way to proceed, and that retaining the original structure would not be cost-effective. A new structure could be compatible with the surrounding homes, even retain certain core characteristics of the original Howes House.

Jen pointed out that Town Hall was actually a teardown and then a rebuild. The historic structure was basically demolished.

It was pointed out that The HDC is a design review board, and there is no application for demolition, nor a new plan for us to look at, other than the one we have said we would not approve.

Josh talked about the importance of retaining historic structures, which is the reason for the bylaw, and felt that we did not at this point know if the original structure had issues that could not be addressed successfully.

Skipper said that The HHC needs something from the HDC that will enable them to move forward with their plans. A statement.

It was proposed by Annie and seconded and approved by all HDC members that “We would like to see the original structure, as shown in the photograph that Ginny Jones has shared with us, we believe circa 1920, retained.”

Next meeting of HDC is March 21, via zoom. We are going to do a hybrid meeting, some of us in our regular meeting room in the Howes House, others who can't attend in person will join us via zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Dole, Secretary  
Approved on March 21, 2022