

WEST TISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Zoom Meeting at 8:30 am with Howes House Committee

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

Also Attending: Jen Rand, K&K Architects, Bernadette Lyons, James Klingensmith, Skipper Manter, Virginia Jones, Kathy Logue, Bethany Hammond

HHC presented a rough sketch of revised proposal. There was discussion. The HDC members found it to be a large improvement on the original proposal. The new sketch retains the original Howes House, and existing additions are removed and replaced by new additions that are more in keeping with the existing Howes House, which is an 18th century building.

It was noted that the present sq footage of 6100 will increase to 9186 in the plan presented. James Klingensmith said that an anticipated 20% growth in use is expected.

There was discussion about how this proposal would work with the existing parking. Ginny Jones expressed concern about creating a bottleneck as library patrons attempted to park, and Council on Aging patrons attempted to drop off passengers before parking. Nancy Dole asked if the present parking area would be reduced by the additions proposed.

Ginny Jones thought that it would be wise to explore leaving the Howes House as it is, and creating a new building for the Council on Aging where the Field Gallery presently is located.

Jen Rand said the new proposal as opposed to the original proposal by the HHC, would double the original budget.

The HHC asked for a vote by the Historic District Commission in support of HHC proposal that would be something they could offer at Town Meeting to the voters.

Nancy Dole said the HDC is a review board, we could not endorse a plan we have not seen.

The following motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously by the members of the HDC:

“We support retaining the original Howes House and suitable additions similar to the sketch presented at the meeting on April 6th, with the understanding that the additions be compatible with the character of the historic district of the Town.”

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Dole, Secretary
Approved on June 6, 2022