

Minutes
of the
Watertown Historical Commission
Thursday, March 13, 2008
Council Chambers

Historical Commission Members Present:

Russo, Roach, Jones,

Staff Present: Hayward

Public Present: See attached Sign-In Form

The meeting opened at 7:30p.m.

1. **February Minutes** – adopted

2. **2008 Preservation Awards** – Collins noted that April/May is traditionally the period allocated for the Preservation Awards program. Applications will be updated and the Commander's Mansion will be contacted to reserve a date in May.

3. **24 Bacon Street** - Russo informed that despite the expiration of the 12-month demolition delay, the property has not been demolished. Russo noted that the property owners still live in the house.

4. **Browne School** – Russo would like to enter the building to undertake a photographic record of the building. He will check in with Ken Thompson to get access to the building. Collins informed that the applicant committed to a historic inventory of the site at its demolition permit public hearing. A letter inquiring about the status of the historic inventory was suggested.

5. **Commander's Mansion** – Russo informed that there has been preliminary discussion to remove some of the landscaping on Talcott Street to provide additional parking. Russo noted that the Mansion has a deed restriction and that site lines to and from the Olmstead landscaped area are protected and removal of the landscaping would be considered a major change. Roach found in the History of the Arsenal, a reference to Talcott Street as the "Avenue of the 100 trees."

6. **Landmarks Proposal** – Russo informed that it is progressing.

7. **Mt. Auburn Cemetery Survey** – Russo reported that a survey proposal for the boundary delineation was in the mail from Boston Survey Group.

8. **Zoning Review** – Russo identified Marshal Street, and Hawthorn and Fayette to be areas where possible zoning conversions may be beneficial from T-Zone to S-6.

9. **Historic Plaque Program** – It was suggested to market the historic plaques to real estate agents.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm