

**TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

BOARD/COMMITTEE: HISTORICAL COMMISSION

DATE: JUNE 16, 2022 TIME: 7:30 PM

PLACE: ON LINE

Attendees: Kevin Mahoney, Alan Rohwer, Brian Picca, Chad Childers, Richard Hilton

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2022 MEETING - approved

MUSEUM : updates

DEHUMIDIFIER IS OFFICIALLY DEAD

NEED TO WORK WITH ED KUKKULA ON HOW TO PURCHASE
MONEY TO REPLACE IS IN BUDGET BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022

CHECK ON BACK DOOR LEAK

FREEZE PROOF FAUCETS STILL ON LIST

HISTORIC SIGNS

- LUCIE HAGER SIGN ON ORDER (MAY 27) - not received yet
- GEORGE ELENBAAS FINE WITH HAVING IT IN FRONT OF HIS HOUSE
- Received inquiry about business sign at 650 Mass. Ave., no action required as not a historic property

CITIZEN INQUIRY ABOUT "RICHARDSON HOUSE" 72 STOW ROAD

- RICHARD HILTON HAS REQUESTED ADDING THIS PROPERTY TO THE
DEMOLITION DELAY "HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT" LIST

- NOT CURRENT SO LISTED

Richard Hilton made a presentation about his interest in the 72 Stow Road property & why he believe it should be deemed historic:

The property on which it sits is part of the Inches property (early 19th Century) and might have been part of the Inches Woods, as visited by Thoreau

It was part of extensive landholdings of the Amasa Richardson family of South Boxborough House built ~1930 by Harlan L. Richardson, Boxborough native but then living in Somerville as "country get-away". Also belonged one year to "Pop" Moore, store keeper. Purchased by Frank Lyons in 1951 & his residence until his death. Early home of John & Keith Lyons

Is a example of Craftsman style architecture, executed in stone, making it rather unique

- REVIEW & DISCUSS, PLAN COURSE OF ACTION - we heard Richard's presentation and decided to defer a decision and planned to do a site visit, as Commission members had never visited the property

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PROPOSED NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 18, 2022

DISTRIBUTED DOCUMENTS: APRIL 14 MINUTES, 72 STOW ROAD RESOURCE DOCUMENT

REPORT ON SITE VISIT TO 72 STOW ROAD

Held on Friday 29 July, 2022

Attendees: Kevin Mahoney, Alan Rohwer, Brian Picca, Chad Childers, Richard Hilton, Al Murphy of the
Boxborough Housing Board

A statement was made about the Commissioners not deliberating during the visit to comply with Open Meeting Law guidelines

Al Murphy gave a background briefing on the acquisition of the property. The property was bought by the Affordable Housing Trust in 2010 using Housing Trust funds. The property is still technically owned by the Housing Trust but is currently the leading candidate for the planned Public Safety Building. The original plan was that the property would be the site of an affordable housing project. That plan was abandoned about 5 years ago for a variety of reasons. Al Murphy presented a document about the affordable housing plan and a 2012 letter from the Historical Commission regarding the property.

We walked the area around the building to observe the house but could not enter as it is boarded up and the interior is said to contain a lot of mold.

The walk lasted about an hour.