

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM

**State Historic Preservation Board
March 12, 2009, 9:30 a.m.
One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor
Hartford, Connecticut**

MINUTES

DRAFT PENDING APPROVAL

- Present:** Chairman Edwards, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Favretti, Dr. Feder, Dr. Goodheart, Ms. Saunders, Dr. Tucker, Mr. Wigren, Ms. Winters
- Staff:** David Bahlman, Julie Carmelich, Wayne Gannaway, Jennifer Haag, Sandy Hayes, David Poirier, Stacey Vairo
- Absent:** Dr. Curran

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Edwards at 9:35 a.m.

II. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES

Chairman Edwards informed the public that a copy of the public comment procedures were available in the back of the room.

III. A motion was made by Dr. Feder, second by Mr. Favretti, to approve the minutes of October 16, 2008 as circulated. (Y-6, N-0)

Ms. Winters arrived at 9:39 a.m.

Dr. Tucker arrived at 9:40 a.m.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

The proceedings of the meeting, including all discussions on nominations, are recorded on audiotape, which is available at the Office of the State Historic Preservation Officer, One Constitution Plaza, 2nd Floor, Hartford, Connecticut. All registration forms are subject to changes made by the Board and by the State Historic Preservation Officer. All properties were inspected by a member of the Commission staff prior to the meeting.

Ms. Vairo reported that for nominations of individual properties, all property owners were notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the pending

nomination sixty days prior to the meeting. For nominations of districts, the chief executive officer of the town or city was notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the pending nomination sixty days prior to the meeting. Property owners within districts of less than fifty properties were notified by regular mail of the pending nomination sixty days prior to the meeting. For district nominations of fifty or more property owners, legal notices appeared twice in local newspapers. Public information meetings were offered to each city/town in which a district is proposed.

All resources included in a National Register Inventory/Nomination form listed as “contributing” to the historical significance of a property have been so determined by the Board.

A. COMPLETED NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS – Stacey Vairo Reporting

South Glastonbury Historic District Boundary Increase, Glastonbury (Criteria A,C)

Staff recommends the district boundary increase for listing. The consultant is Jan Cunningham. No correspondence was received. Jim Bennett, Director, Glastonbury Historical Society, spoke in support of the nomination.

A motion was made by Mr. Wigren, second by Dr. Feder, the State Historic Preservation Board approved to list the South Glastonbury Historic District Boundary Increase, Glastonbury, Connecticut, on the National Register of Historic Places. (Y-8, N-0)

Case Brothers Historic District, Manchester (Criteria A,B,C)

Staff recommends the district for listing. The consultant is Rachel Carley. Eight letters of support and two letters of objection (representing three property owners) were received. Susan Barlow, Manchester Land Conservation Trust, Susan Beach, property owner, and Mark Pellegrini, Director of Planning, Town of Manchester spoke in support of the nomination. Mason Thrall, Thrall Decendant Trust, spoke against nomination. Attorney Paul Ruszczyk, representing Mr. Thrall, stated that each of the 24 people who submitted their votes against the district is an owner.

Ms. Saunders arrived at 9:50 a.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Favretti, second by Mr. Curtis, the State Historic Preservation Board approved to list the Case Brothers Historic District, Manchester, Connecticut, on the National Register of Historic Places. (Y-8, N-0, A-1, Ms. Saunders)

Elizabeth R. Hooker House, New Haven (Criteria B,C)

Staff recommends the site for listing. The consultant is Kate Ohno. A Certified Local Government (CLG) letter of concurrence was received from Dave Barone, CLG Coordinator. John Herzan, New Haven Preservation Trust, spoke in support of the nomination.

A motion was made by Mr. Favretti, second by Dr. Tucker, the State Historic Preservation Board approved to list the Elizabeth R. Hooker House, New Haven, Connecticut, on the National Register of Historic Places. (Y-9, N-0)

Wall Street Historic District, Norwalk (Criteria A,C)

Staff recommends the district for listing. The consultant is James Sexton. Nine letters of objection were received. Attorney Mark Stern, representing a group of owners, spoke against the nomination. Todd Bryant, consultant, and Simon Gerson, property owner, spoke in support of the nomination.

A motion was made by Ms. Saunders, second by Dr. Feder, the State Historic Preservation Board approved to list the Wall Street Historic District, Norwalk, Connecticut, on the National Register of Historic Places. (Y-9, N-0)

Hollister Homestead, Washington (Criteria A,B,C)

Chairman Edwards left the room at 10:55 a.m. prior to discussion and action on the nomination. Mr. Curtis headed the meeting in his absence.

Staff recommends the site for listing. The consultant is Alison Gilchrist. One letter of support was received from Scott Dildon.

A motion was made by Dr. Goodheart, second by Dr. Tucker, the State Historic Preservation Board approved to table the nomination until the next meeting so that Ms. Gilchrist could make necessary changes to the nomination. (Y-8, N-0)

Chairman Edwards returned to the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Restmore, Fairfield (Criteria B,C)

Ms. Saunders left the room at 11:00 a.m. prior to discussion and action on the nomination.

Staff recommends the site for listing. The consultant is Tod Bryant. No correspondence was received.

A motion was made by Mr. Favretti, second by Dr. Tucker, the State Historic Preservation Board approved to list Restmore, Fairfield, Connecticut, on the National Register of Historic Places. (Y-8, N-0)

B. RESOLUTION HONORING ELIZABETH MILLS BROWN – Mr. Curtis Reporting

A motion was made by Mr. Wigren, second by Mr. Curtis, the State Historic Preservation Board approved the following resolution: (Y-8, N-0)

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Mills brown (1916-2008), was first appointed to the State Historic Preservation Board of the former Connecticut Historical Commission in 1984; and

WHEREAS, her service to heritage conservation began many years before when she received a Master's degree in art history from Yale University and embarked on a prolific career as an architectural historian; and

WHEREAS, one of her most notable achievements was the publication of "New Haven – A Guide to Architecture and Urban Design," in 1976, which remains the definitive work on the city; and

WHEREAS, in that same year, the Connecticut Society of Architects chapter of the American Institute of Architects made Ms. Brown the recipient of its Lay Person Award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brown's dedication to historic preservation was particularly evident in her work to document and protect her hometown of Guilford, where she supervised and compiled the architectural resources survey; and

WHEREAS, that research formed the basis of the designation of the Guilford Town Center Local Historic District;

WHEREAS, Ms. Brown was one of the driving forces behind the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, serving as a trustee for seven years and a loyal supporter, valued advisor, and charitable friend for over 20; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, she received the Harlan H. Griswold Award for Historic Preservation from the Connecticut Historical Commission and the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, the state's highest honor; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brown served with remarkable distinction and grace for 22 years on the State Historic Preservation Board, sharing her considerable knowledge and cogent analysis with both members and colleague historians; and

WHEREAS, the Board's admiration for Betty Brown is only exceeded by its enormous affection and appreciation for all that she was, personally and professionally; and

WHEREAS, her greatest contribution may be still to come with the publication of "Connecticut: A Guide to Its Architecture and Towns," which will be one of

56 volumes in the series “The Buildings of the United States” sponsored by the Society of Architectural Historians;

AND WHEREAS, Ms. Brown’s eloquent advocacy, generous philanthropy, and brilliant scholarship has done much to safeguard Connecticut’s heritage into the 21st century;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the members of the State Historic Preservation Board of the Commission on Culture & Tourism, meeting in Hartford this 12th day of March 2009, go on record with this tribute to Elizabeth Mills Brown for her extraordinary service to the State of Connecticut, its cultural resources, heritage preservation partners, and citizens; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor M. Jodi Rell and be spread upon the order of our minutes.

Ms. Saunders returned to the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

V. REPORT OF THE DIVISION DIRECTOR – David Bahlman Reporting

- The Alsop House was designated a National Historic Landmark on 01/16/09

VI. MOTION TO ADJOURN – a motion to adjourn was made, and so moved. All in favor.

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2009, 9:30 a.m., One Constitution Plaza, main conference room.

Respectfully submitted by :
Sandy Hayes, Secretary II