

Complaint Intake

No complaints were received during the reporting period.

Membership

The Members of the Fair Housing Committee are John G. Schuler, Chairman, Gretchen T. Underwood and Peggy Lawrence. Richard H. Brown serves as Fair Housing Officer.

WELLESLEY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Wellesley Historical Commission consists of five members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, each to serve a three-year term. The members of the Commission for the period of this report were Linda Buffum, Joel Slocum, Helen Robertson, Pierre Laurent and Barbara Searle, Chairman.

We continued to follow the progress of the renovation of the Farms Station. The slate roof was replaced with Community Preservation Act monies, with the scheduled repointing to take place in the fall of 2005.

We supported the efforts of some members of the Wellesley Country Club to renovate rather than demolish the clubhouse, which contains the ballroom wherein the vote was taken in 1881 to separate Wellesley from Needham. We were disappointed that the Club finally voted to demolish the clubhouse, and turned to focusing our efforts on preserving as much as possible of certain parts of the structure and setting up a monument with an informative plaque to commemorate the site.

The Wellesley Inn was a regular item on our agenda. We hoped to be involved with the Planning Board, the Selectmen and the Design Review Board as the developers came forward with plans. A meeting was requested for July 11, 2005 to see the plans with the new architect.

We took advantage of Article 6.5 of the Town bylaws to add two advisory members to help us with our increased workload. We decided to ask the Board of Selectmen for permission to ask Town Meeting to allow us to add two permanent members, which would give us the maximum allowed number of seven.

The Katharine Lee Bates House and Clock Tower National Historic Register nominations continued as works in progress.

We received approval for the Wellesley Hills Library branch to be nominated for listing on the National Historic Register using Community Preservation Act monies. The contract for the nomination process was signed with consultant Kathy Broomer.

We continued to be very concerned with the teardown issue in our community. (In the last four years over 200 demolition permits were granted.) We submitted several articles to the

Townsmen on this subject, and explored other means of bringing down this staggering number of demolitions.

We worked on updating our town web site information so it would more accurately reflect what we do and provide some links to local resources. We also continued to discuss our on-going role as a Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Buffum
Chairman

REPORT OF THE WELLESLEY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Wellesley Historic District Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen as specified in Article 18 of the Wellesley Town Bylaws. The Commission has the powers and duties of Historic District Commissions in accordance with the Historic Districts Acts, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Cases

During the period of July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005, the Historic District Commission conducted ten (10) public hearings where seven applications for Certificates of Appropriateness were reviewed and approved.

The Board continues to publish its agenda, meeting minutes, historic district regulations, as well as other related matters on the town-wide web site and additional materials can be obtained at the Planning Board office.

Membership

Serving on the Historic District Commission during 2004-2005 were:

Jean Berry, Chairman
Edwina McCarthy, Vice Chairman
Laura Glen
Eric Cohen
Arshag Merguerian
Mary Rich
Ellen Watts