

**Westwood  
Historic Preservation Commission  
Wednesday, February 8, 2012  
Municipal Complex  
101 Washington Avenue**

**1. Opening of the Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

**2. Roll Call (present)**

Otokar von Bradsky

George Mulhauser

David Hohmann

Linda Salib

Donald Rubin

Robert Miller, Councilmember Liaison

**3. Proceedings**

Linda Salib expressed a concern about what might happen with the building at 313 Broadway because the tenant, Arrow Stationary is going out of business. She feels that this is an emergency situation. The building could be sold and replaced or renovated in a way that would be incompatible with the scale or style of the surroundings. It was recommended that the Commission ask Gregory Dietrich to do a study of the building and include Broadway between Westwood and Jefferson Avenues and recommend what could be done. Donald Rubin reported that Mr. Dietrich has nearly completed a draft report of the Westwood Ave District and planned to present the report at the March meeting. It was agreed by the members that we would request that Mr. Dietrich work on a report regarding Broadway, as soon as he finished the draft report on Westwood Ave.

Mr. Miller was concerned that the Commission should not become another bureaucratic obstacle for property owners who want to improve their properties. Mr. Rubin suggested that instead, the Commission could be seen as a helpful agency that could give advice and guidance to both residential and commercial property owners about how to improve their properties and also how to navigate the process of reviews and approvals. We would not do their architectural or design work, but help in a more general way. Perhaps the Commission would be seen as helpful and friendly, instead of as an obstacle. Perhaps we could prepare an article(s) for the local papers about what we could do and also about some projects that have been completed successfully. Mr. Miller suggested that Mr. Rubin first prepare an outline of some ideas to discuss at the next meeting.

The Board was given a set of preliminary plans to review of renovations of the commercial buildings at 39 and 40 Kinderkemack Road. The plans were prepared as part of an application for a zoning use variance of the properties. After examining the plans, which included floor plans, elevations, landscaping, and site engineering, the members of the Commission had no significant comments supporting or opposing them.

It was suggested that the members of the Commission, especially the newer members might want to familiarize themselves with the historic buildings and houses of the Borough. It was pointed out that the properties of interest are listed in the Borough of Westwood Master Plan which can be found on the Westwood website.

Mr. Miller stated that the categories of the members e.g. "C" member will be changed. Also, Mr. Dietrich will no longer be a member, but rather a consultant.

#### **4. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 7:30 PM at the Westwood Railroad Station.

An e-mail reminder will be sent out in February.