MEETING DATE MAY 8, 2019

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

CONTINUATION OF APRIL 3, 2019 PUBLIC HEARING

8:30 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM, ANNEX

Present: Chairman Deysenroth, Members, Chris Kimberly and Lynne Langlois; Alternate Kathy Failla

Absent, Carol Baldwin, Nicky Bleifeld and Roland Poirier

Chairman Deysenroth called the meeting to order at 8:30 PM. He appointed Alternate Failla to act in the absence of Member Poirier and Member Langlois to act as Clerk in the absence of Clerk Baldwin.

The minutes of the April 3, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously on the motion of member Langlois, seconded by Member Kimberly.

Nancy Thiel representing the Beautification Committee began her presentation with a recitation of her credentials and experience. She also presented a review of the architectural styles in the Norfield Historic District.

There have been some changes in the original application. The proposed material to replace the paving blocks in front of Town Hall is now concrete instead of permeable asphalt. The material for the proposed ellipse was also be changed from permeable asphalt to a resin aggregate, Flexi-pave, a sample of which was shown to the Commission.

The proposed eleven (11) benches will be Carnival by Thomas Steele, made of powder coated metal and set into concrete pads.

The proposed replacement lampposts are white coated metal similar to those used in Bryant Park and Washington Square Park in New York City.

The proposal to move the state historic marker sign in front of Town Hall has been withdrawn.

The Commission's comments were:

Teak benches are a more appropriate material and do not require concrete slabs.

Metal will be cold in winter and hot in summer.

Eleven benches are a lot. The four benches presently in front of Town Hall and the outdoor seating at the Library (sofa, two chairs, bench, four chairs and table and a bench in front of and two picnic tables) are lightly used.

Proposed lampposts are too modern in design and too shiny. The Commission would prefer to retain and repair or replace existing wooden lampposts with same style and materials

Commissioners also commented that the present Town Hall area reflects Weston's history and its unique character. The Library was designed by Joseph Salerno. The Firehouse was designed by Jonathan Wagner, both Weston architects. The Library sign which is also the Library's logo was the work of John Held, another well- known local artist.

Concern that moving all the memorials to a new location in front of Town Hall would look like a graveyard and diminish the impact of each memorial was also expressed.

Commissioners reflected that when the Norfield Historic District was created a 75% affirmative vote by property owners demonstrating a strong commitment to preservation.

Ryan Gussen of High Acre Road said that he had spent many after school hours around Town Hall and would have welcomed more outdoor seating options.

The Application was denied without prejudice, on a motion by Member Langlois seconded by Member Kimberly and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne M. Langlois

Clerk, pro tem