

**Subject to Approval**

**OLD ELM STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE**

**Regular Meeting, Monday, April 26, 2021**

**7:30 p.m. at Madison Town Campus**

**Meeting Room: Zoom Online Webinar**

MEMBERS present: Chairman Thomas Boyle, and Commissioners Susan Cartledge and Eric Berg.

MEMBERS absent: John Lind

ALTERNATES present: Carol Snow.

OTHERS PRESENT: Director of Planning and Economic Development David Anderson. The meeting was available on and recorded through a Zoom online webinar.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Thomas Boyle called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m.
2. **Final Report.** Chairman Boyle stated that his work, plus sporadic study committee meetings, have delayed progress on this for about 18 months. Progress has slowed because it is going to cost money to write the final report, and there has yet to be a positive response regarding funding.
3. **Funding Options.** Chairman Boyle stated that since the beginning he has stated that the members of the proposed historic district would not be asked to spend money, but with no funding options available, the study committee might consider asking those in the proposed historic district. It is expected to cost \$7,000 to \$8,000 to write the final report, and Chairman Boyle stated that it is his preference to see if the Historical Society could fund half of the cost, and then see if someone else could fund the other half. Chairman Boyle stated that he has never written a grant application, and he would need assistance with that. Commissioner Snow stated that now that the Certified Local Government status has been achieved, perhaps there could be a meeting of stakeholders who could come to an agreement on the priorities. That is a conversation worth having, to determine areas of interest and what would require funding, to be completed, according to Director of Planning and Economic Development David Anderson, who stated that he would be happy to participate. Commissioner Snow stated that if Mr. Anderson does not want to be the instigator, he could identify one of the Historic District Commissioners to do so. Commissioner Snow stated that she would be happy to do more homework on what grants may be available that would establish the Old Elm Street Historic District properties—that is a higher priority, but a consensus on that would be necessary from all of the stakeholders. Several names from stakeholder organizations were mentioned, and Chairman Boyle wrote them down, adding that he would represent the study committee, and Commissioner Snow could be representative of the Planning and Zoning Commission. The focus should be on how to become more proactive with historic preservation, according to Mr. Anderson, who stated that he does not want to limit it to a funding issue, and he would be willing to host a Zoom meeting.
4. **Revised Map & Inventory – New members of proposed district.** Chairman Boyle stated that he has to go back and review previous information; there have been sales of houses, so not all of the players are the same. The Old Elm Street proposed historic district consists of 55 properties,  
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beginning at the West Cemetery on the north side and includes the Winter Club, the Schoolhouse Deli, and coming up the south side, the fairway of the Country Club, according to Chairman Boyle.

5. **New letter – Contact efforts.** This will take place, due to houses being sold, and new residents in the proposed district. Mr. Anderson stated that he hopes meetings will not be as contentious as during the Liberty Street proposed historic district meetings. Chairman Boyle stated that he wants to make sure that does not happen for Old Elm Street—the Liberty Street district went from a potential 40 houses to seven.
6. **Review current meeting minutes.** None to review.
7. **Other items.** Chairman Boyle stated that the Old Elm Street Historic District Study Committee has to be reinstated as a study committee by the selectmen.
8. **Adjournment.**

**Commissioner Susan Cartledge made the motion to adjourn at 7:51 p.m.; it was seconded by Commissioner Eric Berg and unanimously approved.**

Vote to adjourn at 7:51 p.m. passed, 4-0-0.

IN FAVOR: Acting Chairman Boyle, and Commissioners Cartledge, Snow, and Berg.

OPPOSED: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marlene H. Kennedy, clerk