

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 25, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Stephen Rotondi, Joan Quigley, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen

Guests: Selectmen Paul Rotondi, Frank Vallarelli; Town Administrator David Ragucci; School Committee members: Jeanne Craigie, David Maurer, Marie Christie, Dr. Les Olsen; Planning Board member Kevin McLaughlin; Little League President Ray Mooney, et al. and approximately 20 residents of the North and East School neighborhoods or school alumni.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Stakeholder's Meeting

- Stephen Rotondi welcomed the audience to the Stakeholder's meeting for the purpose of discussing the adaptive reuse of the North and East School properties.
- Marcia Wengen offered a Power Point presentation explaining the purpose and accomplishments of the Historical Commission, a brief history of the North and East schools, examples of adaptive reused buildings, the town of Wakefield's recent sale of the 1902 Franklin School, and a possible timeline for Stoneham's sale of their schools.
- Audience members asked questions and raised a number of issues including but not limited to:
 - Neighbors concern about current parking abuses at North School
 - Little league interest in retaining the ball fields at East School
 - School committee interest in subdividing East School from the ball fields
 - Neighbors concern that an addition to North School be 'small' leaving plenty of green/open space; another suggestion that addition be no more than 50% of size of current building; can the playground be retained
 - Selectmen Rotondi's interest in having sale of properties and on going property tax revenue pay for a new middle school
 - Possible use of North school as market rate condominium or assisted living complex
 - Question not enough parking for condos at East School; retain flag pole

The meeting ended at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary