The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the members of the Auburndale Historic District Commission (Auburndale HDC) with information about the significance of the properties being reviewed and the application process, which may be useful in the review and decision making process of the Auburndale HDC. Additional information may be presented at the meeting that the Auburndale HDC can take into consideration when discussing a Local Historic District Review application.

Dear Auburndale HDC Members,

The following is additional information for the Local Historic District Review applications that you should have received in your meeting packet.

Applications

63 Hawthorne Avenue – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: Abijah S. Johnson built the Italianate house circa 1858 and in 1860 sold the house to Sidney A. Ensign, a retail boot and shoe merchant living in Hartford, Connecticut. The house is very similar to Johnson’s own house at 51 Hawthorne Avenue which he built around the same time. The simple square main block and set back rectangular wing have bracketed cornices and curved fascia boards.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners would like to expand the rear section of the existing asphalt driveway in order to park two cars side-by-side. The expansion would be approximately 24-feet long and 14-feet wide. **Staff did a site visit and the expansion would be somewhat visible from the public way.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:
Site plan
Photographs
MHC Form B

17 Leighton Road – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The Colonial Revival/Four Square house was built in 1924 and was originally owned by Ralph P. and Gladys B. Jones. Ralph Jones was listed as a credit man in the 1925 City Directory.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners were approved to install deck areas and a kitchen addition in 2015. Staff approved an amendment in March 2017 to reduce the scope and area of the project. The owners would like to amend the project again. The changes to the existing house are: 1) a new deck at the back and left side of the house; 2) changes to the rear addition; and 3) removal of the left side portico. Staff did a site visit and the removal of the left side entry would be visible from the public way.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:
- Site plan
- Plans
- Elevations
- Photographs
- Product information
- Application approved October 2015
- MHC Form B

33 Hancock Street – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The distinctive Italianate house was built circa 1856 by physician Edward Strong. The house is relatively intact.

APPLICATION PROCESS: The owner would like to install three air conditioning condensers on the right side of the house which could be screened with plantings. The new patio and fence were approved in the June 2017 meeting. The right side of the house is visible from the public way.

MATERIALS PROVIDED:
- Site plan
- Product information

16 Williston Road – Certificate of Appropriateness

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE: The 1905 Colonial Revival was owned by Blanche M. Noyse who was a librarian at the Auburndale branch library.
APPLICATION PROCESS: The owners were approved to install an asphalt driveway in 2011. They would like to expand the approved area by making it 15 feet longer and would also like to install cobblestone edging. **The driveway will be visible from the public way.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

- Site plan sketch
- Photographs
- Application approved September 2011
- MHC Form B

**70 Studio Road, Lasell College – Certificate of Appropriateness**

APPLICATION PROCESS: Continued from the August meeting. Lasell College would like to install four 70-foot field light poles in Grellier Athletic Field. The application is for the two lights that would be in the district; the other two lights are outside of the district. **The Newton Highlands Playground (Winchester and Dedham Streets) and the Fessenden School (250 Waltham Street) have 70-foot light poles on their properties which would give some idea of the scale; however, the applicants have stated that the proposed field light poles for Grellier Athletic Field are not as substantial.**

MATERIALS PROVIDED:

- Project overview
- Site maps
- Lighting plan
- Photographs
- Mock ups
- Product information
- MHC Form B
- Letters:
  - 8-25-2017 from Diane Parker, Lasell College to the Newton City Clerk
  - 8-30-2017 from Brian Lever, Epsilon to Barbara Kurze and the Auburndale HDC
  - 9-11-2017 from Diane Parker, Lasell College to the Auburndale HDC
  - 9-13-2017 from Schlesinger and Buchbinder, LLP to the Auburndale HDC

Newton Ordinances – Historical Provisions

**Administrative Discussion**

Minutes

The August draft minutes will be sent out with the October packet.