

Deerfield Historical Commission

Sept. 3, 2013 Minutes

Chairman: Henrietta Kocot
Clerk: Jane Trigère

Cemetery Restoration sub-committee head: Jane Trigère
Historic Resources Inventory sub-committee acting head: Ken Schoen
Representative to the Community Preservation Committee: Jane Trigère

Current Term Dates

David (Bud) Driver 7/1/13 – 6/30/16
Betty Hollingsworth 7/1/12 – 6/30/14
Henrietta Kocot 7/1/13 – 6/30/16

John Nove 7/1/12 – 6/30/14
Kenneth Schoen 7/1/12 – 6/30/15
Jane Trigère 7/1/12 – 6/30/15

Present:

Bud Driver, Betty Hollingsworth, Henrietta Kocot, John Nove, Ken Schoen, Jane Trigère

Agenda

Review Aug 12, 2013 Minutes
Correspondence

Old Business

Report on Ground Radar Imaging
Mass Historic Preservation Conference Oct 18 in Lexington, Ma.
Updates on filed RFP, Accountability policy, Old Grammar School, Inventory project, Sugarloaf St Cem. fence & Web Site

New Business

Reorganization of Commission

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 by Henrietta.

Minutes

Bud moved to accept the Minutes of Aug.12, 2013 as amended; seconded and voted 6-0.

Correspondence

1.Mass Historic Preservation Conference Oct 18 in Lexington, MA Who is going? Jane, Ken and Bud have registered. Henrietta cannot. We'll pay for Marilyn & Shirley to take something related to their work.

2.Talk by Max Page At Hadley Senior Center on Monday, Sept. 16, 2013 7PM.

The Future of Historic Preservation: The View from Western Massachusetts. It is sponsored by the Hadley historical Commission. Max is professor of Architecture and Design, director of Historic Preservation Initiatives at UMass-Amherst.

3.Marilyn sent a sample letter for DHC to support saving the Wiley& Russell Dam. This is the initiative of the Museum of our Industrial Heritage. She is suggesting we send a letter to Mayor of Greenfield. Henrietta will write back asking who wants the dam out and why. John suggested that this is out of our purview; we are Deerfield and that is Greenfield.

Marilyn & Shirley sent Ken donor forms for approval. Discussion re gifts (paper, photos, objects, etc.) What is the future in terms of gifting; how do we handle this?

Bud will talk to David Bosse, librarian at Memorial Hall and possibly invite him to discuss this topic with us. Tabled for October meeting.

4. Jane's swearing in certificate received.
5. Marilyn dropped off an old folder of stuff.
6. Inventory Project time sheet and log sheet received.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ground Radar Imaging

Report given to town office in Cemetery file and a copy to Sean Patterson

No bodies found buried in the famous mound in the Old Albany Cemetery. It was a memorial.

2. Updates: Jane asked Wendy Foxmyn, the Interim Town Administrator, to give us updates on three topics:

- a. Cemetery project - RFP is a large undertaking with many state requirements for proper advertising in state bulletins. The language and deadlines must be followed precisely in order to avoid re-bidding, bid protests, etc. I am using previous cemetery solicitations as a guide and will need to spend several uninterrupted hours (as in a weekend day) in the office to ensure this is done properly. I'm sorry, I cannot promise this will be done shortly, but I hope to have it advertised by October 1.
- b. Old Grammar School - I have requests for bids out to 2 historic preservationists (they will also have a structural engineer on their team) and I'm awaiting their response. Btw, a hazmat specialist had reviewed the building this past week for asbestos, mildew/mold, lead paint, etc. and will be giving us an estimate for remediation work. We are also going to dig, most likely next week, to determine the water table height, in order to see whether we can address ongoing wetness issues in the basement.
- c. I strongly support adoption of an Accountability Policy. It will probably need Selectboard approval. We'll need to research that. In order to show additional due diligence, and perhaps to strengthen the language, I've asked Jane to call some of the entities named in the document listing communities with policies. Please ask, as well, which town official/board adopted the policy.

Other updates: Inventory project, (see correspondence above) Sugarloaf St. Cem. fence & our Web Site

Jane will send again a link to FCAT produced web site for review and comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Reorganization

Betty is voted to act as Chairman *pro tem* for the purpose of the annual reorganization of the Commission. Seconded by Ken all in favor.

Job descriptions can be found in Massachusetts General Laws 121c.

Chair position:

-Jane nominated John, 2nd by Henrietta.

-Ken nominated Betty; 2nd by Jane

-John nominated Henrietta; 2nd by Bud

Voting method silent or show of hand? Voted unanimously that it should be silent. Discussion of the candidates.

Ken (only) counted the ballots: the majority voted for John as chairman.

Clerk: Bud nominated Jane; Ken 2nd. Voted unanimously.

Representative to the CPC: Henrietta nominated Ken; Bud 2nd; voted unanimously.

Keeper of the books:

Jane nominated Betty; she declined nomination.

John nominated Bud; Henrietta 2nd. Motion carried unanimously

Historic Resources Inventory sub-committee head: Jane nominated Ken; 2nd by Henrietta. Jane nominated Betty as member of that sub-committee; 2nd by Bud. Both voted in unanimously.

Cemetery Project sub-com. head: Ken nom Jane; 2nd by Henrietta . Voted unanimously

Liaison to Old Grammar School project: Motion by Ken for Henrietta; John 2nd. Voted unanimously.

We need to fill the vacant position

Motion by Jane to close reorganizational section of our meeting. Ken 2nd. Voted unanimously.

John, as new chair, closed the meeting at 7:10pm

The next regular meeting will be Monday, October 7, 2013 at Town Hall at 5:30 pm.
John moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10; Jane seconded; Voted 6-0.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Trigère, clerk