

NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011

Call to Order

An organizational meeting of the Newbury Historical Commission was held in the Meeting Room of the Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt Street, Byfield, MA on Wednesday, November 9, 2011. The meeting convened at 6:30 PM.

Members in attendance were Chris Drelich, Channing Howard, Marcia Peirce, Barbara Rogers, Nancy Thurlow, and Bill Towne. Dave Mountain was present for the first 20 minutes of the meeting as a representative of the Board of Selectmen.

Approval of Minutes

As this was the first meeting of the Historical Commission in a few years, there were no previous minutes to approve.

Reports

No reports were presented.

New Business

1. As this was the first meeting of the Historical Commission (hereafter referred to as HC) in a few years, time was spent discussing the role of the HC and potential ways it can help the Planning Board and other town committees and organizations. It was identified that there are few (if any) protective covenants on historic structures in town, nor a demolition delay bylaw, or other such protective measures as have been adopted by other local cities and towns.
2. Dave Mountain informed us that Martha Taylor, Town Planner, will serve as a support person for the HC.
3. The HC agreed that our first "task" should be to identify, locate, and draw together all known records, resources, and assets to a central location. Some items were identified, such as (a) minutes of previous meetings of the HC, (b) listing of historic buildings begun by Patsy Brown, former clerk of the HC, (c) audiotaped oral histories recorded several years ago and possibly transcribed, (d) history of the Lower Green Schoolhouse, of which the HC has served as 'caretakers,' and (e) potential records and/or files which were, at one time, located in the right-hand entryway of the Lower Green Schoolhouse. Bill Towne suggested that a central space for all town archives should be identified.
4. **Motion:** A motion was made by Nancy Thurlow to elect Chris Drelich as Clerk of the HC. *The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

5. **Motion:** A motion was made by Marcia Peirce to elect Channing Howard as Chair of the HC. *The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*
6. **Motion:** A motion was made by Bill Towne to elect Barbara Rogers as Vice-Chair of the HC. *The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*
7. **Motion:** A motion was made by Bill Towne that the HC meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Meeting Room of the Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt Street, Byfield MA at 6:30 PM (unless otherwise announced). *The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

Announcements

1. Newly-elected HC Chair Channing Howard will contact Chris Skelly of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, who may be able to come to a HC meeting to provide help and insight on our work.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the HC was set for Wednesday, December 14, 2011 at 6:30 PM in the Memorial Room of the Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt Street, Byfield MA.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Christopher Drelich
Christopher Drelich,
Clerk

December 14, 2011
Date of approval