

NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2012

Call to Order

A regular monthly meeting of the Newbury Historical Commission was held in the Phillips Building Cobb Room at The Governor's Academy on Tuesday, January 17, 2012. This was a rescheduled meeting; the original meeting, set for Wednesday, January 11, was not posted in time. The meeting convened at 6:30 PM.

All members were present: Chris Drelich, Channing Howard, Marcia Peirce, Barbara Rogers, Nancy Thurlow, and Bill Towne.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 12/14/11 meeting were presented and approved on a motion made by Bill Towne.

Old Business

1. Finances were discussed. The HC has a \$650 appropriation from the town. The electric bill for the schoolhouse last year was \$120.34, which we should plan on spending again. The rest of the money can be used at the discretion of the committee.

Motion: A motion was made by Bill Towne for the Historical Commission to establish a gift fund for donations and the proceeds of sales. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

2. We discussed memorabilia and sale items leftover from the 350th and 375th anniversaries.

Motion: A motion was made by Barbara Rogers that the HC shall request from the Board of Selectman that all memorabilia from the 375th and 350th anniversaries be transferred to the possession of the Historical Commission. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

3. Essex National Heritage's *Trails and Sails* event was discussed. Dates are September 21 - 23, 2012 and September 28 - 30, 2012. The HC definitely wants to open the schoolhouse for tours on those weekends. We also discussed tours of the Lower Green area, including the First Settlers' monument, burying ground, the Jackman-Willett House, and the first meetinghouse marker. Reproductions of the antique map of the Lower Green were also discussed as something to hand out during the event.

4. Discussion was held on whether we want a 7th member of the HC. All felt it would be a good idea. Members will put out feelers to see if anyone is interested.

5. It was brought up that there may be more historical assets at the Newbury Town Library, namely transcriptions and/or cassette tapes of more oral histories. Bill Towne will contact the library to see what's there.

New Business

1. The circa 1800 Federal-style house at 1 Little's Lane has been slated for demolition. The HC, however, has no authority to delay or prevent this action. The Town of Newbury does not have a demolition delay by-law in place.

2. Members of the HC are each going to research one or two area towns and procure the demolition delay by-laws of those towns (if they exist). If possible, members are also to inquire whether or not the by-laws are effective. This information will be helpful in deciding whether we feel Newbury should take the steps to try to establish a by-law of its own.

3. Selectman Bulgaris has contacted Channing about the Larkin Mill. Evidently there are several parties interested in the turbines that are still inside the mill, including the Ipswich Watershed Association and the Waltham Industrial Museum. In the event that the mill be slated for demolition in the future, we should keep those organizations in mind who could remove the turbines for historical display. In the early Spring, Channing would like interested members of the HC to do a site walk. He will coordinate at a later date.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the HC was confirmed for Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 6:30 PM in the Meeting Room of the Newbury Town Library, 0 Lunt Street, Byfield MA.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.



Christopher Drelich,
Clerk

February 8, 2012
Date of approval