

# **NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Wednesday May 23, 2012

Present: Norm Corbin, Debra Comeau, Stephen Anderson, and Stephanie Stockman

Guests: Amy White and Bret Matthew

Meeting called to order by Chairman at 7:05PM.

## **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- A motion was made by Norm Corbin and seconded by Stephen Anderson to accept the minutes of April 2012. The motion was accepted unanimously.

## **130 Main St. Demolition**

- Norm Corbin had a phone conversation with Tim Shay. Currently there is a lawsuit with a group of neighbors. The neighbors are making an appeal to the state regarding the decision made for the development of 130 Main St. This will take approximately three months.
- The demolition delay expires on August 6<sup>th</sup>, so the NHC will not have to act urgently in finding alternatives to demolition.
- The NHC discussed that it is still important to review the options for alternatives of demolition for this property.
- The NHC received a written response from Mr. Pember, and Mr. Shay confirmed that the driveway needs to be where the house is located.
- Worcester Preservation was contacted and they have worked with Heimnes for restoration.
- Amy White spoke with Old Sturbridge Village, and they look at homes prior to 1840. Also Amy contacted Dan Shields from Old Boards in Spencer, MA. He salvages old lumber and he is interested in salvaging materials from 130 Main St.

## **Town Meeting Results**

- Norm presented at town meeting. The by-law change was voted down. The current wording will stay the same.
- The NHC funding for the cemetery passed.
- Funding for the Preservation Reserve Fund passed.
- The Northborough Historical Society received funding for the organ.
- The funding for the Northborough Town Hall came out of the general fund.
- Money will be available on 7/1/2012 for the cemetery. The next step is to request bids for the project. Debra Comeau will continue to work on the formal requests.

### **Restaurant in the Old Town Hall**

- A Mediterranean restaurant is opening up in the old town hall.
- The owner of the restaurant contacted the NHC regarding the scaffolding in front of the building.
- He wanted to know if there were any alternatives to the scaffolding that is placed out front during the winter to prevent snow and ice from falling on the sidewalk.
- Although this building is not an historic building, Norm will contact the owner of the restaurant to discuss this concern in detail.

### **National Register**

- Norm will send a letter to the MHC inquiring the statuses of the Old Howard Street Cemetery and the Baptist Church.
- Mary Goodenow Grave – Debra found information that the remains of Mary Goodenow were found at the site. There is now confusion as to whether or not the monument is owned publicly or privately. The easement is private, but there is question as to who owns the property.
- Norm received an email from Forest Lyford stating that Trinity Church would like to begin the process to be on the National Register.
- The Massachusetts Water Resources Association is allowing trails to be developed on the aqueduct. Steve will inform the trails committee of this.

### **Video Project Status**

- The next meeting will be in June.

### **Main St. – Expansion of the Civil War Memorial**

- The NHC discussed that it is necessary to learn more about the steps involved in expanding this memorial to include a Revolutionary War monument.
  - Steve will inquire about the property costs.
  - Norm will contact John Campbell.

### **New Members**

- In June, Amy White will be sworn in as a new member.

### **Applefest 2012**

- The booth price will be \$50.00, and it was brought to the attention of the NHC that the street fair will be held at Algonquin Regional High School.
- There was discussion as to whether or not the NHC would participate in Applefest this fall.
- Norm Corbin made a motion that for 2012 Applefest, the NHC will participate. Debra Comeau seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

- What are the goals for the NHC during the 2013 fiscal year? This topic will be researched and discussed in future meetings.
- Norm will contact Kathy Joubert regarding what is a quorum and what is a tie?

**Adjournment**

Steve Anderson made the motion and Debra Comeau seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:40PM. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman  
NHC Committee Member