

NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes Wednesday May 14, 2014

Present: Norm Corbin, Stephen Anderson, Debra Comeau, Bruce Chute, Amy White, and Stephanie Stockman

Guest: Marie Nieber and Mr. Trimble

Meeting called to order by Chairman at 7:00PM.

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - Amy White made a motion to accept the April 16, 2014 meeting minutes. It was seconded by Debra Comeau. It was accepted unanimously.
 - Amy White made a motion to accept the April 23, 2014 minutes for the public hearing of Town Warrant article #37 on extending the Demolition Delay to 12 months, and it was seconded by Norm Corbin. It was accepted unanimously.
- Town Meeting Results
 - Warrant Articles
 - Single house district - accepted
 - 12 month delay - denied
 - CPC Funding
 - All historical based funding passed at town meeting.
- Projects Status
 - National Historic Register
 - Mary Goodnow Site
 - Debra received the letter from Pheasant Hill acknowledging their support to put the burial site on the National Register, it will be mailed to the MHC.
 - Howard Street Cemetery
 - In process.
 - Baptist Church / Historical Society Building
 - Norm was requested to submit more photos, and he sent them to the MHC.
 - Historic House Plaques
 - Steve spoke to John Fouracre, and he said that the plaques are \$50.00 each, and the homeowner can order the signs directly from him.
 - The homeowner decides what is on the plaque
 - There are four typical choices
 - Steve will review the town's signage by-law.
 - 250th town anniversary
 - Six town organized events have been identified.
 - The Gala Ball in January 2016
 - The Summer Birthday Party and BBQ

- Parade and Fireworks
 - Senior's event
 - Children's event
 - March – Northborough Historical month
- CPA Funding ideas for next year
 - Chapin Mill sign
 - Woodside Mill District sign
 - Rock Hill sign
 - Assabetville sign
 - Cyrus Gale sign at the library
 - Chief Solomon sign at Solomon pond
 - Mastodon site sign
 - Monument for the Minutemen
 - Replacement stone for Reverend Whitney
 - Brigham Street cemetery – Ground Penetration Radar (GPR)
 - White Cliffs sign
- New Business
 - Mr. Trimble (a long time town resident and businessman) proposed that he could fund placing signs throughout town identifying historically significant people.
 - His initial proposal is for a sign in front of 30 Main St. where Dr. Gregory Pincus (who invented the birth control pill) lived. He proposed a large sign similar to the Mary Goodnow sign on Route 20.
 - List of signs – Mr. Trimble gave Norm a list of ideas for signs in Northborough.
 - Steve will review the sign by-law to gather further information.
 - Rt. 290 Time Traffic Management Signs – MassDOT has revised their earlier request for sign location. Norm reviewed their new proposal and sent a letter to them requesting some modifications. Per town by-laws, new street names should be reviewed by the Historic Commission
 - Debra will email the town planner regarding our by-laws.
 - Since the colonial portion of the Howard St. Cemetery is on the State Historic Register, Mass Hist. Commission 50:50 match funding could be available BUT it requires a Preservation Restriction to be in place. Norm will look into this with the Town Planner.
 - Charter TV Historical Segments
 - They would like to contact Marie Nieber to do a segment on her home.
 - Commission E-Mail
 - Steph will continue to check the historic commission email.
 - Historic District Commissions
 - There may be two different commissions. The decision is still in process.
 - White Cliffs
 - Norm will meet with the CPC and town manager.

- Newspaper article on route 20 becoming an historic road.
 - Bruce will follow-up with this.

Adjournment

- Steve Anderson made the motion and it was seconded by Debra Comeau to adjourn the meeting at 8:57PM. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman