

# NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes Wednesday March 19, 2014

Present: Brian Smith, Norm Corbin, Debra Comeau, Bruce Chute, Amy White, and Stephanie Stockman

Guest: Marie Nieber

Meeting called to order by Chairman at 7:04PM.

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
  - Norm Corbin made a motion to accept the February 20, 2014 meeting. It was seconded by Amy White. It was accepted by 6 members and one member abstained.
- Projects Status
  - Mary Goodnow Site
    - Letter to MHC for an “Opinion on Nat. Hist. Reg. Eligibility”
      - In process
    - Debra will follow-up with the MHC.
  - Cemeteries
    - National Hist. Registration Status for Howard Street
      - In process.
  - 250<sup>th</sup> town anniversary
    - There are 9 members, and Norm has been sworn in as one of the members.
  - Historic House Plaques
    - Amy liked the plaques the Town of Westborough has for their houses, and she likes the consistency of where the plaques are placed on the house.
    - Norm would like the NHC to run a program to purchase a house plaque.
    - Steve will work on creating an established system for purchasing a sign.
    - Norm Corbin made a motion that the plaque program will be funded solely by the homeowner. Steve Anderson seconded the motion. It was accepted unanimously.
  - Town Meeting Warrant Articles
    - Single family historic district
      - Brian will speak at Town Meeting on this topic.
    - Changing the Northborough Historic District Commission to be changed to the Northborough Historic Commission.
      - Norm will speak on this topic at Town Meeting.
    - Change in demolition delay

- Brian will speak on this topic at Town Meeting.
- The White Cliffs
  - The owner is interested in preserving The White Cliffs, but does have plans for development if it does not sell. They have commitments until the end of the year, and will not sell until then.
  - The NHC needs to create a list of preservation ideas as to what could become of it.
  - The process – Brian will speak to the CPC to see if they are interested in purchasing a preservation restriction on the property.
  - Brian will continue to keep in contact with the owners.
- CPA Ideas for next year
  - White Cliffs
  - Section B of the Howard Street Cemetery
  - Cold Harbor Bridge
  - The Aqueduct
  - Handicapped access for NHS museum
- Baptist Church NHR follow-up
  - Norm will contact Mike Steinitz at the MCH to check on the status of this property.
- New Business
  - MassDOT has agreed to find a new location for the travel time sign.
  - A Preservation Restriction Agreement for the cemetery will be required before any MHC funding can be obtained for repair or preservation activities. The next funding deadline is February 2015.

### **Adjournment**

- Debra Comeau made the motion and it was seconded by Amy White to adjourn the meeting at 8:38PM. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman