

NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes for Monthly Meeting
Wednesday November 19, 2014

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

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Guest: Trish Settles from the Central Mass Regional Planning Committee

Monthly Meeting

- Trish Settles from the Central Mass Regional Planning Committee
 - The CPC committee has contracted Ms. Settles to prepare a community preservation plan.
 - Her agency represents the southern two thirds of Worcester County.
 - Ms. Settles is a consultant for the CPC and she will assist the NHC with future funding goals and plans.
 - CPA funds allow the NHC to acquire, preserve, rehab and restore.
 - We were asked to prioritize our future projects.
 - The high priorities are White Cliffs, the cemeteries, the aqueduct, and the Cold Harbor Bridge.
 - Need to understand other funding sources outside of CPC
 - Example – The Environmental Bond Bill may allow money to assist with aqueduct trails.
 - Ms. Settles asked the following questions.
 - Are there properties in town that we would like to have a property restriction on?
 - The Town currently has 3 individual properties with Preservation Restrictions in addition to the properties within Local Historical Districts
 - White Cliffs Mansion
 - Are there any buildings or features we would like to preserve?
 - The MHC would like to have part of Main Street on the state register. The MHC prefers to have districts rather than single homes.
 - Owners of the school house homes were interested in the NHR.
 - Are there any Restoration/Rehabilitation projects being considered?
 - White Cliffs
 - Aqueduct
 - Cold Harbor Culvert
 - Howard Street Cemetery
 - (FYI this has been done already) Digitizing the Northborough Historical Society records

- Are there projects outside of the Commission that should be supported historically?
 - The NHC discussed the following ideas.
 - Genealogy project
 - Church project – Preservation of Documents
 - Archaeology
 - Ms. Settles will summarize our conversation, and she will share it with us.
 - It was discussed that the town should have an updated copy of an historical cultural and scenic map, and that this may be helpful for the NHC to use as a reference for projects.
 - There are 2 maps identifying the location of properties inventoried in Phase-I (2008) and Phase-II (2009) of the Historical Assets inventories. Norm will find digital versions of them and forward to Kathy Joubert.
- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - Norm Corbin made a motion to accept the October 22, 2014 meeting minutes as amended. It was seconded by Amy White. The motion was accepted unanimously.
- Historic District Commission
 - Need to be sworn in
 - Need to have two agendas and two meetings
 - Need to elect officers at the first meeting
 - Need to determine Appointment terms at first meeting
 - It can have alternates
- Project Status
 - White Cliffs
 - No updates
 - CPA Funding requests for April 2015
 - There is an increase for the GPR application to \$20,000.
 - National Historic Register
 - Mary Goodnow
 - In process
 - Howard Street Cemetery
 - In process
 - Old Baptist Church
 - In process
 - Historic House Plaque Program
 - Steve will get samples of the signs for the next meeting.
 - 250th Celebration
 - Norm attended the meeting, and many things have changed.
 - All the events will be during one week.
 - Saturday August 20th through Sunday August 28th.
 - Possibilities include - a ball, fireworks, and a parade
 - Historic Plaques funded by Mr. Robert Trimble
 - Norm will contact Mr. Trimble to encourage him to discuss the details of the sign with the current owner.
 - New Cemetery Signs (CPA funded)

- Debra brought in photographs of the signs designs.
- Colonial Headstones Preservation (CPS funded)
 - Debra is waiting for Kathy Joubert to receive information from Plymouth in regards to a similar project that they did.
 - Debra will follow-up with Kathy.
- Newspaper article on Route 20 becoming an historic road
 - In process
- 39 West Main Street Study Committee
 - Brian attended the meeting. Bucky Rogers is considering selling the vacant lot just west of the building.
- Sign for 130 Main St (Hunt Shoe mfg.)
 - Steve received prices from Crown.
 - The post \$70.00 dollars
 - An aluminum sign \$198 sign
 - Bronze sign \$332.00
 - Screws (2 needed) \$12.00/screw
 - Steve will update Kathy Joubert about this project.
- NHC sent a letter to 12 Maple Street recognizing their efforts in maintaining the historical appearance of the outside of their home.

Adjournment

- Steve Anderson made the motion and it was seconded by Debra Comeau to adjourn the meeting at 8:58PM. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman