

# **NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes for Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday December 17, 2014

Present: Brian Smith, Norm Corbin, Bruce Chute, Amy White, Stephen Anderson, and Stephanie Stockman

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05.

Guest: Marie Nieber and Scott Miller

## Monthly Meeting

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
  - Norm Corbin made a motion to accept the November 19, 2014 meeting minutes. It was seconded by Brian Smith. The motion was accepted unanimously.
- Street Naming
  - Guest: Scott Miller, Developer for Sterling Court
  - Mr. Miller is here to discuss the name of the street of his development
  - He preserved the original homestead – 29 East Main St. (Brackett Homestead, 1916).
  - He would like to name it Sterling Court. (Sue Brackett requested it to be named after her maiden name, Court, and her husband's name Sterling.)
  - Norm has requested that Mr. Miller submit a letter for approval with information as to the history of the street name to the Board of Selectmen.
- Projects Status
  - Historic House Plaque Program (review samples)
    - The signs are aluminum with plastic wood
    - Steve Anderson would like to make a motion to send the letter that Bruce wrote regarding the historic sign purchase. Amy White seconded and the motion was accepted unanimously.
    - Norm will sort the data and send them to Steve. The data will include homes before 1800, historic districts, and historic homes on Main St., and Steve will check for current ownership.
  - Sign for 130 Main St. (Hunt Shoe mfg.)
    - Steve Anderson wrote a letter to send to Tim Shea with wording for the sign. The cost of the sign and post would be between \$200 and \$450. Norm will send out the letter to Mr. Shea.
  - Route 20 becoming a historic road
    - Bruce contacted Brian Farr, President of the organization, and they would like to put up signs along all of Route 20, identifying its historical significance.

- Mr. Farr will come to the February meeting to discuss the organization's plan.
  - 39 West Main Street Study Comm.
    - No updates
  - Central MA Regional Planning Commission
    - Norm found the Phase I and Phase II inventory maps and gave them to Kathy Joubert to forward to Ms. Settles.
    - No updates from Ms. Settles
  - Historic Plaques funded by Mr. Robert Trimble
    - Norm drafted a letter to Mr. Trimble and the current homeowners of 20 Main St.
    - The letter updates Mr. Trimble with our concerns regarding the size of the sign, and the need to work with the homeowners to design a sign.
    - Also, the letter will discuss the possibility of sponsoring Mr. Ei visiting Northborough.
  - White Cliffs
    - There is another interested party who is considering using it as a function facility.
    - CPC funds can be used for historical buildings. Norm mentioned this to Mr. Durkin.
    - Should the NHC ask the MHC to reconsider their decision regarding a "Preservation Restriction" for White Cliffs?
      - Norm has received more information about the history of White Cliffs that was not considered in the initial evaluation.
        - Role of the owner in developing the firearms industry in the USA
        - The advanced water system used
        - Details of the Craftsmanship of the Interior
      - Norm would like to hire a consultant to rewrite the letter to the NHC.
        - Norm contacted PAST (an historical consultant) to estimate the cost for preparing documentation to send to the MHC.
        - Estimate is \$1500.00 to hire them.
        - Norm will contact PAST with the details of the research that is involved.
        - Norm will attend the next CPA meeting to investigate the possibility of funding.
  - CPA Funding requests for April 2015
    - No updates
  - New Cemetery Signs (CPA funded)
    - No updates
  - Colonial Headstones Preservation (CPA funded)
    - No updates
- New Business
  - Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund, Usually due Mid-March

- For funding 50% of Colonial Gravestone restoration & repair
  - Cemetery Commission Meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00, in the Kitchen
    - Norm will attend the Cemetery Commission Meeting to update them on the NHC project.
  - Author - Mr. Eig
    - There is interest in inviting Mr. Ei to Northborough to speak on his new book about the development and impact on the Birth Control Pill.
    - The Worcester Museum has him booked for a tentative date in February.
    - The cost is \$2500.00
    - The consensus of the committee was to not have the NHC participate in this event.
- **Adjournment**
  - Steve Anderson made the motion and it was seconded by Amy White to adjourn the meeting at 8:35PM. The motion was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman