

# NORTHBOROUGH HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes for Monthly Meeting

Wednesday July 15, 2015

Present: Norm Corbin, Bruce Chute, Amy White, and Stephanie Stockman

Alternates: Marie Nieber and Brian Smith

Guests: Leslie Harrison and Susan Carroll

Chairman called the monthly meeting to order at 7:00.

- Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
  - Norm Corbin made a motion to accept the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes for the NHDC. It was seconded by Amy White. The motion was accepted unanimously.

## AGENDA

- 1 Lyman St. demo delay update
  - Norm will send an email to Ian Gaw regarding contacting Chris Skelly about barn salvage.
- Membership update
  - The 30 days have passed for soliciting new members from The American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Worcester Regional Association of Realtors. There have not been any applicants. Therefore there are three member seats open.
- Projects
  - Historic house plaque program
    - The letters have been mailed out.
  - White Cliffs update
    - Norm's update
      - National register
        - The NHDC is re-applying for a preservation restriction approval from MHC.
        - Albert Rex of MacRostie Historic Advisors LLC will resubmit the application. He will request that the MHC outline what needs to be updated in the building so that it can qualify for a preservation restriction.
    - Best Use study

- Three proposals were submitted, and Kirk & Company was selected.
  - The process to complete the study is from 4-6 weeks.
- Colonial headstones preservation (MPPF 50:50 funding, target spring 2017)
  - The town is waiting to review how the town of Plymouth's bidding process before Northborough puts in its proposal.
  - Bruce had a note from Debra Comeau
  - Debra's notes state the following.
    - Waiting on bid specs from Town of Plymouth (Kathy Joubert is our contact) to write our own specs and request for proposal. I suggest we invite Gravestone Services of New England (Kai in NH), Monument Conservation Collaborative (Connecticut) and Ivan Myjer (Cambridge) to submit proposals (Note: Ivan Myjer wrote the specs for Plymouth). Need to run everything by Dan Nason (DPW) and the Cemetery Commission. Note: Community involvement will lower the cost and most people will give free lesson and demonstrations for volunteers.
- Two new cemetery signs
  - The following are notes from Debra Comeau
    - To be ordered from Expose Signs, Milford (Andy Clark, Owner) for \$5,000.00 total. Need to check: Town for town seal; use Mass Historical documents for both proper wording and dates (?). Coordinate with DPW and Cemetery Commission when complete for placement, poles and installation.
- Historic plaque funded by Mr. Robert Trimble
  - Lt James Lyons died in a plane crash in Northborough in 1943
    - Norm will speak with Mr. Trimble regarding the NHDC's decision that Lyons did not live in Northborough. We will not request CPA funding for a sign.
  - Mark Fydrich – We will request come CPA funds to subsidize the sign for this local MLB player.
  - Norm is working with Mr. Trimble on funding options.
- CPA 2015 approved requests (target Oct 31 for installation) from 2015
  - This needs someone to lead the project. The signs have been approved, and we need to edit the wording.
    - Chapinville, Assabetville, and Woodside
      - Stephanie and Susan will find photos for this sign.
    - Peter Whitney parsonage
      - Marie and Norm will get a quote for the sign
- CPA 2016 funding requests (July 30 deadline)
  - White Cliffs preservation restriction

- Norm - Updating last year's edition
- Mark Fydrich historic marker
  - Bob Trimble is willing to pay for some.
  - Ann Fydrich said she would agree to a sign.
  - Norm will write the proposal, and he will find out how Mr. Trimble can donate the money to the town.
- Meeting house historic marker
  - Amy is working on the project.
  - She would like to have a sign with three buildings.
    - Church, town hall, and high school
  - Amy discussed concern for the Paul Revere bell.
    - Amy will contact the church.
  - Bruce's intentions for a sign were for the meeting house in 1745.
  - There is a possibility for two different signs
  - The NHDC will move forward with the meeting house sign.
  - Norm will send a scanned photo to Bruce to be submitted with the proposal.
- Cold Harbor culvert
  - Norm spoke with Dan Nason.
    - DPW is putting a budget together.
    - DPW would like CPA funding for the historical portion.
    - Norm will find out more information about filling out the application.
    - Norm will continue to update the NHDC.
- Peter Whitney headstone restoration
  - Marie researched this.
    - It is made up of marble, soft sandstone, and granite.
    - A local headstone expert recommended cleaning it off. If this is done, it might be possible to read. The cost to do this is approximately \$150.00
    - Norm Corbin made a motion to clean the Peter Whitney memorial for \$150.00, and it was seconded by Amy White. The vote was unanimous.
- Brigham St. Cemetery Line Survey
  - CPA request to survey the lot.
  - Amy White made a motion to request CPA funds to determine the boundary lines for the Brigham Street Cemetery, and it was seconded by Norm Corbin. The vote was unanimous.
- Reserve Fund
  - Resubmit as the NHC did last year.
- Firetruck

- CPA funding – The Fire Fighter Association would like to resubmit a request so that the CPC could purchase the fire truck.
        - This funding process is challenging because this is a private organization.
      - CPC Liaison
        - Marie Nieber will be the liaison, after she checks with the town to see if an alternate member can be a representative.
    - Brigham St. cemetery GPR – (gather quotes in 2015 with spring 2016 target)
      - The following are notes from Debra Comeau.
        - We have two estimates for this that differs by \$4,000.00. We need analysis and possible help from the Cemetery Commission as to how they would want it mapped and presented (staked our gravesites or marked with paint).
        - Waiting on a proposal from Rob Berger
      - 250<sup>th</sup> celebration update
        - There is a new date for the gala. It will be in February.
        - The first fundraiser – 9/11/15 golf outing
        - Lorna Helms is working on the fundraising.
        - A postcard will be sent to every home explaining the 250<sup>th</sup>, and how homeowners can help with fundraising.
      - Applefest
        - Displays
          - Photos of our signs in town
          - Bruce will photograph and work on the display
        - Contact people that signed up last year to give them an update
          - Bruce will send an update as to where we are with the cemetery.
- New Business
  - Marie will contact town hall to find information about the voting role of alternate commission members.
  - 110 Howard Street Barn Demolition
    - Will have a public hearing
    - Norm will contact the owner for a walk through
  - Howard Street Cemetery
    - National Historic Register application is in process.
- Adjournment
- Amy White made a motion and it was seconded by Norm Corbin to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 PM. It was accepted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman

