

NORTHBOROUGH HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2018

Present: Norm Corbin, Amy White, Stephanie Stockman, Zenya Molnar, Alexandra Molnar, Leslie Harrison, Brian Smith (Alternate), Michael Duchesneau (Alternate)

Guests: Julianne Hirsh, Lisa Maselli

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Previous Meeting Minutes – A motion was made by Leslie and seconded by Amy to accept the meeting minutes of October 17, 2018. It passed unanimously.

Agenda

Historic District Expansion to include the Howard Street Cemetery

- Scott Charpentier from the DPW would like to revisit this project next year.
 - There might be the consideration of nominating the cemetery and burial ground to the National Register of Historic Places.
 - Massachusetts Historic Commission noted that historic districts are more for housing than for cemeteries.

156 Pleasant St

- Norm contacted Karen Scopetski.
 - There have not been any recent inquiries.
- Lynne from the Housing Authority would like to speak with Norm.
- Rick Leif reviewed the property for possible purchase.
 - It would be \$400,000 for restoration and \$375,000 to purchase.
 - The total would be \$775,000, which is too expensive.
 - There is a possibility of making it a 2-family.
 - There is a possibility of moving the house.

61-65 Main St Status

- Pierce House
 - The current owner is considering a demolition.
 - There was a previous demolition permit from the previous owner four years ago.
 - We need to inquire if there needs to be another demolition permit.
 - This could be a possible site for a new fire station.

CPA Project Submission

- The applications have been submitted.
- The interpretive signs will cost approximately \$5,000.
 - This includes two interpretive signs.
 - Panels are sensitive to light and last 10-15 years.

Colonial Headstone Preservation Project

- The project is 95% complete. It will be finished in the spring.

Master Plan Steering Committee

- January 3rd is the next meeting.
- Norm and Alex attended the meeting.

White Cliffs Committee

- December 21st is the next meeting.
- The committee is negotiating with an architectural firm.

New Meeting House Sign Newspaper Article

- In process

Letters of Appreciation

- Letter sent to Yellick farm for rebuilding after the fire
- Stephanie to get names and addresses for 70 Main St and Park St.

Additional Alternate Members

- There are openings for five alternates.
 - Lisa Maselli is interested.

Expenses

- All expenses have been resolved.

New Business

Benefits of Historic Preservation Program

- Chris Skelly spoke of the value of a historic district and how property values in historic districts are often higher.

The Northborough Grange

- Norm to draft a letter helping them with their renovation process.

Howard Street Cemetery – possible mass grave

- Stephanie to research how many children died.

Unitarian Church

- Kathleen Howland is intrigued about the history of the meeting house.
- She would like to highlight the history of the church at the next Applefest.

At Risk Properties

- List of at risk properties
 - What they can do to protect their properties?

Alex made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30. This was seconded by Amy. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Stockman
Secretary