

STOW HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of February 4, 2016

Members present: Dot Spaulding, Patrick Hopkins, Marilyn Zavorski,
Vellyn Antonelli (absent), Rosemary Bawn - quorum present

Associate members present: Lew Halprin (absent), Margaret Barry (absent), Barbara Clancy,
Andy Crosby

Others present: none

Meeting convened at 7:30 pm.

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm with a quorum present.

The **minutes** for the January 7, 2016 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: No changes this month.

Building Permits: Permits reviewed without comment.

Public Archaeology Survey Team update: No communication this past month.

Community Preservation Commission: Dot will submit a proposal to CPC asking for an additional \$5000.00 for three days of work by Topographix, LLC to re-do the work lost by the unwarranted removal of GPS markers by unknown person(s) at Lower Village Cemetery.

Ground Penetration Radar and Mapping: Dot and Marilyn continue to mark up the two cemetery maps of marked and unmarked gravesites from Topographix, LLC.

Cemetery Policies: The Commission discussed the possible location of an official Cemetery Policy Handbook. The Commission would like an on-going discussion about sending a letter to the Selectmen and Town Administrator expressing concerns about protecting our historic Hillside and Lower Village Cemeteries from additional new burials. All of the Commission members *thought* that both cemeteries were closed to current burials.

Stow Town Hall's future: Dot reported that Gregor Trinkaus-Randall presented a proposal to the CPC about a project to restore Stow's Town Hall. He mentioned SHS and SHC approvals, but in taking a survey of Commission members at this meeting, no one was approached by Gregor except a few words in passing to Dot Spaulding. It was agreed that he would need to make a presentation at a Commission meeting in order to seek approval.

Stow Town Report: The 2015 Stow Historical Commission Report for the Town Report was approved.

Archeological Site: The Commission received a letter from Dr. Peter Waksman of Concord concerning Native American "Sacred Landscape" in Stow vulnerable to development. The private property at the end of Gates Lane contains about 50 ancient cairns/rock piles and Dr. Waksman hopes the site can be protected. Acton's "Trail through Time" was brought up. The Commission will need further discussion.

First Parish Church Steeple: This item will be discussed in the spring.

West School: The Stow Cultural Council awarded a grant for bus transportation for the third graders to attend Stow history programs at West School in the spring. Marilyn remarked that this is the first third grade studying Stow history that did not attend Pompo. The resulting concern is that the word "Pompositicutt" means nothing to them. The Commission members agreed that we need to keep the word Pompositicutt still visible in our town somehow.

Old and New Business: none

Correspondence: In an e-mail Connie Schwarzkopf stated that she would like the Commission to consider placing the West School on the National Registry.

Next meeting is March 3, 2016 at 7:30 in the Town Building.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted

