Wareham Historical Commission Meeting Minutes: March 6, 2013 Wareham Town Hall

Present: Robin Ragle-Davis (Chair), Mack Phinney (Vice Chair), Len Boutin (Treasurer),

Angela M. Dunham (Clerk), Cheryl Knapp (Co-Clerk) arrived after first hearing took place.

Liaison: Alan Slavin

Guests: Nan Miller, Nancy Sawyer, Ryan Correia

Demo Delay Hearing: (1)

34 12th St.

Onset, MA

Owner: Ryan Correia, 91 Sarah Sherman Rd., Rochester, MA 02770 Map 1, Parcel 318

Phone: 508-989-0101

Wareham Historical Commission members do onsite visits before hearings take place. Along with the application, a field card and photos of both the interior and exterior of the property are requested. After discussion and review of the photos, the property was deemed beyond repair. A field card was requested for the property and the owner has agreed to furnish this before any action takes place.

Vote to allow demolition: 4-0-0

Demo Delay Hearing: (2)

57-59 Main St. (former Greer Lumber Co.)

Discussion took place regarding the Greer Lumber property, which is located in the Wareham Historic District and has fallen into disrepair over the years. The Wareham Historical Commission has requested that a joint meeting between the Wareham Historical Commission,

Wareham Historic District Commission and Alan Slavin, Board of Selectmen Liaison to Wareham Historical Commission take place. Robin Ragle-Davis will request legal counsel from the Wareham Board of Selectmen.

Vote for further study: 5-0-0

Memorial for Jim Mellon: Jim Mellon, former Wareham Historical Commission Chair, recently died of cancer. A committee will be formed to design a memorial for Jim Mellon consisting of fellow committee members and others who worked with Mr. Mellon. Mr. Mellon, based at the Kennedy Library in Boston, MA, was in charge of the computer network for all Presidential Libraries east of the Mississippi River. His passion, enthusiasm and dedication for the

preservation of Wareham's History were inspiring to his fellow committee members and he will be dearly missed.

• Guest: Nancy Sawyer, photographer, was given contact information on historic properties for a project.

• Tremont Nail Co. (TN Co.) updates:

- 1. National Register application has been filed by Johanna Rowley. A request has been made to put Tremont Nail Co. on the 11 Most Endangered Historic Properties List.
- 2. Mack Phinney, a member of the Wareham Summer of Celebration 2014 Committee, has proposed that a Revolutionary War Encampment and Reenactment take place on the Tremont Nail Co. property and the Wareham Village Green. It was stated that artisans and TN Co. machinery could be part of the displays and events. Water problems need to be addressed and volunteers will be asked to help clear invasive plants from the drainage areas with the guidance of Dave Pichette, Wareham Conservation Agent. Mr. Phinney gave a presentation on the Iron Trail on Feb. 23, 2013 and noted that there is a rich history in the South Coast regarding iron works contributing to military contracts and local industry.
- CPC Report: Angela M. Dunham (CPC Chair, WHC Liaison)

There is one Historical Preservation Article submitted for the Wareham Spring 2013 Town Warrant. It is sponsored by the British Landing Condominium and Yacht Club Association, 53 Main St., Wareham and asks for \$100,000 to preserve the iconic chimney tower. The estimated cost for demolition is \$40,000 less than complete restoration of the tower, which exceeds the financial ability of British Landing. Brick and mortar has begun to disintegrate and are falling away creating a safety hazard to pedestrians who may be in the area.

WHC vote to support the British Landing Chimney Article: 5-0-0

• WHC Historic Plaque Program: Cheryl Knapp has contacted Colonial Brass Co.

Each plaque will be 10" X 7" powder-coated aluminum. Pricing: Tooling \$400.00, \$78.00 each plaque (public charge) for the first 30, 30 piece minimum order, \$7.00 each for shipping and handling.

A draft of the Historic Plaque Program application will be reviewed at the next meeting.

• Treasurer's Report: Len Boutin

Town account: \$110.50 Gift account: \$546.51

 Mack Phinney shared 1885 Wareham maps that were in his wife's family and will add them to the Wareham Historical Commission's archives. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Phinney for their generous gift to the community.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Dunham (Clerk)