

May 1, 2002 - Regular Meeting of the Wellfleet Historical Commission (WHC)

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TOWN CLERK

Janet Erickson, Chairperson, opened the official meeting at 4:12 PM with members Paul Fox, Clarence Smith, Anne White, Richard Dickey, David Rego, and Eugene Cormier in attendance.

The minutes of the April 3, 2002 meeting were read and accepted unanimously.

Correspondence

Paul reported on the incoming correspondence and suggested actions as follows, which were acknowledged by the members of the commission.

- a) Letter dated February 15, 2002 from Department of Environmental Management Re: "Massachusetts Historical Landscape Preservation Grant Program." Deadline for application is May 15, 2002. - File
- b) Letter dated April 9, 2002 from Jeffrey White Re: Dr. Durand Echeverria's History of the Wellfleet Congregational Church. Copy of the history is donated to the WHC and should be filed.
- c) Letter dated April 9, 2002 from the Massachusetts Historic Commission, MHC, Re: Taylor Farm Conservation Property and that we should "be aware that Native American archaeological resources may be located within the conservation area." - file - (Oliver property).
- d) Adjustment Notification from the Town of Wellfleet that there were no expenditures last year and the balance of the WHC budget for the period of July 2001 to March 2002 has been placed in the General Fund - File
- e) A brochure from the Massachusetts Archives announcing "The Fifth Annual Community Forum on Historical Records" at Bridgewater State College, June 7, 2002 from 9:00 To 4:00. - Information only.
- f) A brochure from the Cape Cod Commission announcing the "9th Annual Celebration of Cape Cod's Maritime Heritage from May 11 - 19. Information only.
- g) A Booklet from The Trust for Public Land showing how "The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to improve the quality of life in our communities." - Information only

Old Business

Janet reported on the progress to identify the new street numbers of the buildings within the central Historic District. She and Anne previously used Fire Department maps with the "911" house numbers (assigned in 1990), to cross reference to the "plot" numbers on the assessors maps. Janet, following last months meeting, met with Paul to discuss the identification of buildings within the central historic district. These discussion based upon historical memory and physical location comparisons helped locate a number of Janet's "missing" house locations. Paul suggested that Janet meet with both David and Clarence to conduct similar reviews to provide additional building/owner identifications. A "splinter" meeting at 1 PM on May 6, 2002, in Janet's studio was arranged. Richard brought in a

circa 1880 map of Wellfleet that listed a number of the residents in the central district. The map will be reviewed for possible input to the project.

New Business

A discussion ensued, prompted by Jeffrey Whites letter, (correspondence item b above), on the requirement to organize and file acquired documentation in WHC's file cabinet located in town hall. Other former members or friends of the commission also have provided pertinent historical documentation to the WHC. (e.g., Richard has received documentation from former members. Paul has received historical items/photos from friends of the WHC). This information should be properly stored for future use. Janet volunteered to review WHC's file capability and suggested a special meeting in the town hall basement to review, organize and file the subject documentation. The members voted to meet on May 15, 2002.

Richard, in concert with MHC letter (correspondence item c above), to "alert" the WHC to the potential of archaeological resources within the Taylor Farm Conservation Property, discussed another potential archaeological resource, an oyster shell burning pit off Loagy bay. The burning pit, which is near the Denmark property, was used by Wellfleet residents to reduce oyster shells to lime for mortar mix. Richard suggested that two WHC members make an initial site visit to investigate, locate the pit, if possible, and report back to the Commission.. Anne volunteered to join Richard on the initial visit.

Having no other business before the WHC, the attendees voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 PM. The next meeting, a special meeting to organize and file the acquired documentation, will be held on May 15, 2002 in the town hall basement.

Respectfully submitted,

EFC, Clerk/Secretary