

November 6, 2002 - Regular Meeting of the Wellfleet Historical Commission (WHC)

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TOWN CLERK

Janet Erickson, chairperson, called the official meeting to order at 4:06 PM with members Paul Fox, Richard Dickey, Clarence Smith, Anne White, David Rego and Eugene Cormier in attendance. Richmond Bell also attended as an interested observer.

The minutes of the October 2, 2002 meeting were read by the members. During the reading, it was pointed out that the discussion of the Charlie Wiley "old photos" incorrectly identified "Nan Harding" as "Ann Harding". The attendees voted to accept the minutes with the "Nan Harding" correction.

Correspondence

Paul reported on the incoming correspondence. After a brief discussion on each item, the attendees agreed to the individual actions as follows:

1. Statement from Sovereign Bank indicated that the current balance in the WHC account is \$354.05 including interest credited through August 31, 2002. - file
2. Statement from Town of Wellfleet indicating the current WHC budget is \$250.00 for Contract Services, and \$250.00 for Office Supplies. - file
3. Memo from Town Administrator indicating that Ms. Elizabeth Lane gave "a presentation regarding the legal responsibilities and limitations of board membership", on October 15, 2002. - info only
4. Letter from MHC dated October 15, 2002 to Joel Lerner, Division of Conservation Services with a copy to WHC regarding the Open Space Committee Acquisition of the Ziering Property. The MHC states "that there are no known historic properties or archeological sites recorded within the parcel. However, portions of the parcel are archaeologically sensitive and are likely to contain archaeological sites..." Purchase of the property would "help to preserve any archaeological sites..." - WHC agrees with MHC and has no objection to purchase for open space - Action: Paul will request that Open Space Committee send copies of their letters to WHC - file
5. Letter from MHC dated October 15, 2002 to Joel Lerner, Division of Conservation Services with a copy to WHC. The same text as preceding letter except the property mentioned is the Ernst Property. - file
6. Cape Cod Commission Reporter dated October 24, 2002 concerning two articles; Article on "Route 6 Safety, Traffic Flow on Outer Cape", and Article concerning "Grants Available from State Historical Preservation Projects Fund." - file
7. Cape Cod Commission Reporter dated October 10, 2002 concerning "Cape Trends UPDATE" column dealing with Cape Median Ages. - Wellfleet's median age, (47 yrs), was ranked 13th in the state listing - info only

8. Brochure from Cape Cod Commission regarding "Walking Weekend", suggested walks, and a book, "Cape Cod at Three Miles an Hour". - Janet to ask whether library has a copy; if not, WHC will file copy

9. Letter from Town of Wellfleet Administrative Office signed by Jeanne May dated November 1, 2002 indicating that 2002 Annual Reports should be submitted by December 18, 2002. - Action - members to provide inputs to report at next meeting - Janet to draft report

Old Business

As reported in last months minutes, Richmond Bell has expressed an interest in joining the WHC, which raised the question of whether the WHC could request an alternate membership position from town hall. Paul reported on his action to pursue this question with the town clerk and provided Richmond with an application for membership. The State Law chapter 40 allows committees to have alternate members; however these alternates cannot vote on meeting issues unless the committee members do not otherwise provide a quorum for the meeting. Clarence volunteered to pursue the alternate voting rule question, specific to the WHC, with the town administrator. In the interim, the attendees suggested that Richmond attend our meetings and provide historical input as an interested observer.

Janet reported on her activities to procure additional Wellfleet Historical District documentation. Paul Bertram, MHC, in response to Janet's telephone conversation, forwarded duplicate copies of some of the original data submission and duplicate copies of some of the original photographs. The photos were originally taken by Warren Seyfert, who had retired to Wellfleet and is now deceased. Janet stated that she would combine the material in plastic pages in a binder so that Richard, Richmond and other WHC members could review them for identification. Specifically, Janet suggested that she organize and then duplicate the documentation, to make two books. Anne volunteered to take the organized documentation to Staples to generate the two copies.

During the Central Historic District building identification, (ID), discussion, Richard suggested an approach which hopefully would simplify the building ID process. He had drawn a "pictorial map" of the buildings on both sides of Holbrook Avenue. He then traveled along the route and identified the owners for each house; the address, wherever numbers were visible, was also listed for each house. The attendees discussed the approach and suggested that the commission try to locate a projected "house by house" view of the central district. Janet volunteered to check the assessors office to procure, if possible, a similar map of the central district.

Richard brought "nickname" information to the meeting to review as a possible project. Richmond stated that he already had two tapes in the library that identified "nicknames" of a number of Wellfleet residents. No follow-up action was recommended.

The monuments and memorials subcommittee stated that they would meet in two weeks, if possible, to review the action item updates of the descriptions of the monuments and memorials.

Janet reported that she was able to scan the Charlie Wiley "old photos" and generate a CD with her Photo Shop software. She passed out two CD copies to see whether PC systems without Photo Shop could access and display the CD photos file.

New Business

Clarence provided the attendees with Xerox copies of a May 1795 map of Wellfleet which identified the "islands" included within the town plan. Clarence obtained the map from the Massachusetts Archives - Maps and Plans.

Having no other business before the WHC, the attendees voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 PM. The next regular meeting of the commission will be held in the Wellfleet library at 4:00 PM on January 8, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

EFC, Clerk/Secretary