



TOWN OF MEDWAY
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

*Medway Town Hall
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Minutes

Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

In-person Meeting at Senior Center, Oakland Street

*Commission
Members*

*Jeanne Johnson,
Chair*

*Paul Russell, Vice
Chair*

*Eugene Liscombe,
Treasurer,
Representative to
Community
Preservation
Committee*

*Cher Hamilton,
Member*

*McKenzie Ward,
Member*

*Morgan Harris,
Member*

*Rich Eustis,
Member*

Members in Attendance: Cher Hamilton, Paul Russell, Gene Liscombe, Morgan Harris, McKenzie Ward

Members Absent: Rich Eustis, Jeanne Johnson

Others Present: Barbara Saint Andre, Director of Community and Economic Development;

Meeting was called to order by Historical Commission Vice Chair, Paul Russell at 7:01 PM.

I. Demolition applications to consider

None to consider.

II. Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report.

III. Minutes to consider – September 22, 2021 & October 6, 2021

On a motion made by Gene, seconded by Cher, the Historical Commission Committee voted unanimously to approve the September 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

On a motion made by Cher, seconded by Morgan, the Historical Commission Committee voted unanimously to approve the October 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes.

IV. CPC Report (Gene Liscombe)

Gene stated the main discussion was the fire truck. Next meeting is November 1, 2021.

V. Project Updates

A. Evergreen Cemetery

Ms. Saint Andre passed around a certificate she received from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. On August 4, 2021, Evergreen Cemetery was listed on the National Register of Historical Places. Ms. Saint Andre asked to discuss at the Select Board meeting to announce this news. She suggested members of the committee to go to the meeting on November 1st at Sanford Hall to receive much deserved recognition. Paul stated they would like to get a plaque or something like the plaque at Buzz Johnson Park. Paul will talk with Jeanne to discuss costs.

B. Flagpoles

All three flagpoles should be installed by November 2nd. Large pine tree next to Civil War statue is now gone. There was originally the remains of a flagpole hidden within the tree.

C. Fencing

Fencing has been installed at the dog park. DPW is going to put a sign on the gate to explain why it is fenced off.

D. Flexible wraps

Paul does not have an update. He would like to drive around again to see where traffic stops / best spot for the wraps. He suggested this is a potential spring project and the possibility of joining forces with Cultural Council. Paul mentioned other towns are doing it. It looks really nice and gets people interested. Paul has many photos in mind- he suggested sitting down one day to determine the best photos.

E. Local historic districts

How much restriction a home within a local historic district would be up to the Town. This is a benefit of local historic district. This project will take research. Cher suggested working on this along with the by-law updates. Next annual town meeting is in May and it will come fast. Barbara asked if she could help with anything. Paul suggested researching a few towns for examples.

F. Holbrook bells

Gene does not know where the bell from the First Congregational Church is. He has a name and telephone number for Jeanne to call. They are hoping the bell is still in town.

VI. New Business

A. Demolition By-Law – Potential Amendments

Different time frames set for the by-laws. Ms. Saint Andre sent around proposed amendments that were discussed. Applicants provide a report from an engineer, etc. Next change would be 18-month delay except for buildings less than 100 years old. Further define what they need to do during the delay period – bonafide and reasonable effort to find an alternative use or seek a new owner, obtain a licensed broker, obtain an appraisal, engage in good faith negotiations, no offer from a reasonable buyer for the appraised price, and no agreement could be made despite good faith efforts.

Paul suggested choosing an age of the home – add that to the restriction. Cher believes 1945 – forward is the Massachusetts Commission. She also mentioned a 24-month delay.

B. Master Plan

Barbara handed out master plan flyers to members for another opportunity to provide input. The flyer is being distributed at all town committee and board meetings.

On a motion made by Gene; seconded by McKenzie, the Historical Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Mitchell, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved on November 17, 2021.