



**TOWN OF MEDWAY**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Medway Town Hall  
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**Minutes**

Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 7:00 p.m.  
Zoom

*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 (virtually):** Jeanne Johnson, Gene Liscombe, Cher Hamilton, Morgan Harris, Rich Eustis, Paul Russell joined at 7:30 PM

**Members Absent:** McKenzie Ward

**Others Present (virtually):** Barbara Saint Andre, Director of Community and Economic Development, Katherine Mitchell, Recording Secretary

Gene, Cher, Rich, Morgan, and Jeanne announced themselves.

**I. Meeting was called to order by Historical Commission Chair, Jeanne Johnson at 7:03 PM.**

**II. Demolition applications to consider**

Inquiry from Richard Brodsky regarding the house buying the lower units at 166 Village Street across from town hall. Is that location any type of a historic or protected landmark that requires additional approvals to do work there?

Specifically, I'm just looking to potentially add some windows on the first floor. I really don't want to change the building in any meaningful way, but some of those lower spaces need more natural light and I just wanted to know if putting windows in that are consistent with the existing architecture style would be an issue?"

Mr. Brodsky was informed Ms. Saint Andre and by HC Chairman Jeanne Johnson that he would need to submit a Request to Demolish a Historic Building (even though he would not plan to demolish it, just change the appearance somewhat) in order for the Historical Commission to consider his question. He was told the building is in the heart of the Medway Village National Historic District, and he was invited to attend tonight's meeting virtually to discuss it, and he was invited to send us pictures of windows he might consider installing. He did not attend and did not submit any pictures.

Historical Commission did discuss the issue briefly and agreed there did not seem to be a reason he could not add windows on the first floor. Commission members might be able to suggest windows appropriate for the building/area. The Design Review Committee might be a better resource for this. Gene remembers the current windows being installed in the sixties.

**III. Minutes to consider – March 3, 2021**

On a motion made by Cher Hamilton, seconded by Gene Liscombe, the Historical Commission voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve minutes of March 3, 2021.

Jeanne Johnson	Aye	Paul Russell	Absent	Gene Liscombe	Aye
Cher Hamilton	Aye	Morgan Harris	(Abstain)	Rich Eustis	Aye

**IV. Treasurer's report (Gene Liscombe)**

No change. Gene receives a statement every month from the Town Accountant; our budget balance remains \$2,500.

**V. CPC Report (Gene Liscombe)**

Gene stated the CPC met virtually on Monday, April 5th . First item- Flag poles and flags for the two cemeteries and the Park, \$12,000 was approved. The 10% Historic Resources portion of CPA funds, had \$33,000 added to it. CPA Historic Reserves: \$987,773. At the next meeting he should get more details. Gene mentioned there was quite a bit of discussion about Evergreen Cemetery. Jeanne mentioned some changes may be in effect regarding the ownership of the cemetery. They should hear more in about 4-5 weeks. There is an article on the May 10th Annual Town Meeting Warrant for the Town to take ownership and responsibility for the Cemetery; however, Trustee George Lee, who is retiring, stated there may be a private caretaker willing to take over this responsibility.

Gene also mentioned there was an Eagle Scout at their meeting who requested \$250 from CPC funds for his Eagle Scout project, a plan to install five poles with two bat houses on each pole.

Morgan left the meeting at 7:26 PM to attend another town committee meeting.

Paul Russell joined the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Jeanne informed Paul of Evergreen Cemetery care being taken over by the Town. Paul asked if anyone spoke to the Cemetery Commission. Jeanne stated Medway does not have a Cemetery Commission.

**VI. Old business**

**A. Spring Town Meeting Articles (Annual Town Meeting is May 10, 2021)**

As stated above, CPC will recommend Town Meeting approval of our articles.

**B. MA Historical Commission accepted Evergreen Cemetery** application for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places and has forwarded the application for national approval. The cemetery is officially listed on the Massachusetts Register of Historic Places now. Paul stated it would be about two more months before we know more about national acceptance.

**C. Plaques/Markers for Historic Medway Sites**

This is an ongoing project for Historical Commission. They need to work on some type of marker for the Garnsey site. The Historical Commission has a list of historic sites they wish to possibly put markers on. Paul stated the schools plan to have high-school students back to in-school learning in April and will be able to inform interested students of research possibilities for this project. Cher has a few books from the Historical Society, and she offered to do some research on background for some of these sites.

**VII. New Business**

A. Is it possible to change Historical Commission meeting night as the Zoning Board meets on the same night, and it is difficult for Barbara Saint Andre and Morgan to host both meetings at once. Jeanne suggested the fourth Wednesday of the month. This night is agreeable to all members.

On a motion made by Gene, seconded by Cher, the Historical Commission voted to change meeting the meeting night to the fourth Wednesday of every month, beginning on April 28, 2021.

<b>Jeanne Johnson</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Paul Russell</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Gene Liscombe</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Cher Hamilton</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Morgan Harris</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Rich Eustis</b>	<b>Aye</b>

B. Paul mentioned the flags in the high school are worn and tattered. Jeanne mentioned this may be a project for the VFW. Rich mentioned a person he thought would be able to assist.

C. Paul briefly mentioned a project to wrap traffic boxes with flexible wrap imprinted with pictures of historic Medway sites. He will do further research into this; Millis and Medfield have done it.

**On a motion made by Cher; seconded by Gene, the Historical Commission voted unanimously by roll call vote to adjourn at 7:43 PM.**

<b>Jeanne Johnson</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Paul Russell</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Gene Liscombe</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Cher Hamilton</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Rich Eustis</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

**Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 28, 2021, via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Mitchell, Recording Secretary