



**Medway Historical
Commission Minutes
Wednesday December 4, 2019 7:30 p.m.
Medway Senior Center**

Members in Attendance: Jeanne Johnson, Cher Hamilton, Eugene Liscombe, McKenzie Ward, and Paul Russell

Members Absent: Kathleen Hickey, Bruce Hamblin

Meeting was called to order by Historical Commission Chair, Jeanne Johnson at 7:35 PM

Demolition Applications and Property Questions: None scheduled.

November 6th Minutes: Defer approval until January's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Gene Liscombe stated \$46.75 was spent on the slates for the veterans' benches.

CPC Report: Gene Liscombe said there was no CPC meeting in November.

Updates on ongoing projects:

- A. Benches honoring veterans were installed on November 25th
 - a. Paul Russell measured and leveled the benches in preparation for their delivery; he stated he needs to finish re-leveling.
 - b. Jeanne Johnson questioned whether there was a chance of plows breaking the benches
 - i. Paul stated he would bring markers from home to mark the benches to avoid this.
 - ii. Jeanne said the benches looked beautiful and referenced an article in today's paper that included a photo of her husband, veteran Buz Johnson.
 - iii. The project came in under budget.
- B. Evergreen Cemetery grant update (Paul Russell)—MA Historical – PAL researcher Gretchen Pineo met with Paul at Evergreen in mid-November, discussed project, took many pictures.
 - a. Gretchen spent 5-6 hours taking notes and conducting research
 - b. Gretchen reached out to Paul tonight to get specifics including dates.
 - c. Paul gave Gretchen a lot of the research books.
 - d. Jeanne spoke to Barbara St. Andre regarding the grant awarded to the Historical Commission for this project. The grant amount will be adjusted since the project cost will be less than originally projected and the grant can only cover half of the cost of the project. Barbara will take care of the required documentation.
- C. November 18 Fall Town Meeting-All zoning measures passed
- D. Historical plaques for Town Hall, Anderson School, High Street School, etc.
 - a. Sizing of plaques depends on the size of the building.
 - b. Examples of current buildings with these plaques- Hood's House, 184 Main Street (Large plaque with cut outs in the corner) and Gene's House, 8 Highland Street (Small plaque).
- E. High school students' future involvement ----

- a. McKenzie mentioned the National Honor Society had a few students who helped with the Historical Society house tours
 - b. Jeanne asked Commission members to think of more ideas to get students more involved
- F. Digitizing photographs in Historical Commission files in Town Hall Basement file cabinets.
Cher stated that town photographer Tim Rice will begin working on this project during his less-busy time, in January and February. She said he was putting pictures online to try to match them up with the information in the files. The Historical Society has a link on their website that may help him identify locations.
- G. December 1st- Historical Society tours of historic homes in the Rabbit Hill District was successful.
 - c. 120 people went on the tour
 - d. They had 20-23 volunteers for the event
 - e. 6 houses on the tour, began at Gene's house & Ide Museum was the last stop
 - f. People are interested in volunteering their homes for the tour next year
 - g. Parking was at Community Church and the Library
 - h. Refreshments, holiday décor, and caroling occurred at the Ide House/Museum.
- H. Digitizing the two books comprising the Town of Medway Comprehensive Historical Survey Project, 1998, Phase 1 and 2. (Many properties in our two Historic Districts on the National Register of Historic Places were included in this survey; however, the survey was done before we had any Historic Districts recognized on the National Register.) Thank you, Paul Russell.
 - a. Both books have been scanned and will be available to the public on the Historical Commission page of the Town website.
 - b. They have been indexed by street names for easier searching.

In a motion made by Gene Liscombe; seconded by Paul Russell, the Historical Commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:18 PM.

Next meeting- January 15th, 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Mitchell, Recording Secretary

These minutes were approved at meeting January 15, 2020