

Medway Historical Commission
Minutes
Senior Center, 76 Oak Street, Medway, MA
Wednesday, December 5, 2018, 7:30PM

Check quorum: Jeanne Johnson – Chairman, Paul Russell – Vice Chairman, Eugene Liscombe – Treasurer & Representative to Community Preservation Committee, Bruce Hamblin – Member, Cher Hamilton – Member, Kathleen Hickey- Member

Chairman Jeanne Johnson called the meeting in order at 7:30 PM.

Property at 21 High Street

Ms. Johnson introduced guest: Michael Larkin (Co-owner of the property with his brother, Patrick Larkin) from Larkin Real Estate Group

Mr. Larkin talked about the property, a parcel with house, barn, and outbuildings of about three acres, noting it has been vacant for about a year. They recently purchased it and hope to build multi-family residential structures. Their current plan is to preserve and renovate the house, if that is possible, and demolish the barn and other structures to accommodate their plans. They will contact a structural engineer to help them determine what can be done to the house. Mr. Larkin invited Commission members to tour the house and grounds, and the date set for that site visit is Friday, December 14, at 3:15. Jeanne explained that the house, while not in a historic district, is near the Rabbit Hill District and also near another historic area (Woods Corner) which might some day be nominated as a historic district. It is also over 150 years old. After some discussion, Mr. Hamblin moved that 21 High Street is a historically significant building; Mr. Russell seconded the motion; all members were in favor. A Public Hearing will, thus, have to be scheduled. We will determine a date for that after the site tour on December 14. It will probably be scheduled on January 16.

2. Review of Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2018 meeting:

A motion to delay review of the November 7th meeting minutes ~~in~~ until January was made by Member Bruce Hamblin and seconded by Member Cher Hamilton. All approved.

3. Treasurer's Report: No Changes since November 7, 2018 meeting

4. Community Preservation Committee Meeting: Gene reported there were no updates on projects.

5. Report of Town Meeting: Our Warrant Article requesting funding (\$13,000) from our CPA funds for Evergreen Cemetery passed unanimously. Bruce ~~motion~~ moved that Paul ~~will obtain on getting 3 quotes~~ should seek three estimates for consulting work to be done on the Evergreen application for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. ~~Consultant~~, Cher 2nd the motion; all were in favor.

6. Old Business: Project Updates

- A. **Nominating** the IDE House and TORREY house for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places: Paul has been checking on consultant costs for performing the research necessary for such nominations, and the average price is about \$6,500 per house.

- B. **House plaques.** Cher is working on getting a copy of the town seal to see if can be replicated on plaques; she will also ask sign providers for quotes on pre-drilling holes in the plaques.
- C. Original Town Hall model project: on hold
- D. New demolition application form has been used by one applicant in November. We agreed the form meets our requirements. We may need a slight adjustment in the future.

7. New Business that may come before this commission

Kathy would like to get schools involved in telling Medway's history to students through stories. Perhaps we could have a video made; our former member Marian Pierre-Louie is a qualified videographer and might help us. We like this idea.

Next Meeting:

January 16, 2019 at 7:30PM

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bruce, seconded by Gene and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Bemis

Meeting Recording Secretary