



Medway Historical Commission Minutes

Wednesday, June 5, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
Medway Senior Center, 76 Oakland Street

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Attending were Gene Liscombe, Jeanne Johnson, Bruce Hamblin, Paul Russell.

Members Cher Hamilton and Kathy Hickey were absent.

I. Demolition Applications and Property. Question about 260 Village Street barn. Message from Barbara Saint Andre (May 13) saying that owner Ann Parr called her with concerns about the barn on the property. The Commission determined that the barn was of historical significance and preferably preserved, thereby imposing a 12-month demolition delay. Mrs. Parr believes the barn is a hazard and that it needs to be demolished. She stated she has talked to the firm in Bellingham but does not think they want the wood from the barn. She believes she could re-use some of the wood on site. She asked to be placed on tonight's agenda (June 5th), to talk to the Commission; however, she was not present tonight. Jeanne talked to Rindo Barese, Building Inspector, today about the barn and our desire for more input before lifting the demo delay.

II. The minutes of the May 1st meeting were sent by e-mail and also passed around tonight. Gene Liscombe moved, and Bruce Hamblin seconded the motion that the minutes be accepted. All approved.

III. Treasurer's report --Gene Liscombe reported no change since his last report. Unused funds from our annual budget of \$200 will revert to the general fund, and we will start the new Fiscal Year with a \$200 budget. Gene raised a question with the Town Accountant regarding \$2,500 left in the HC account from our Historic Marker project several years ago, which we intend to use to purchase inscribed memorial benches for the three cemeteries. If these funds will revert back to the general fund if not used by June 30, Paul Russell will order the three benches and have the town pay for them before the deadline. The benches will be placed when the Memorial Committee decides what the inscriptions should be. Jeanne will call the accountant to check on this.

IV. CPC report--Gene Liscombe reported that the CPC met Monday, June 3. The only action involved taking action to locate missing minutes from some of their meetings. They will not hold meetings for the rest of the summer unless an emergency arises. There will be no expenditures until the November Town Meeting.

V. Reports of ongoing projects

1. Evergreen Cemetery— Paul Russell reported on the grant awarded for the cemetery. He and Barbara Saint Andre met with Massachusetts Historical Commission members at the Historical Archives in Boston on May 29. They provided proof that Medway has not received federal grant money for this project in the past (evidently some towns are not permitted to receive federal grants.)

This meeting described procedures, phases, steps required as this project proceeds. Paul will need to go to the Archives twice more. They want the project finished by June 30, 2020. Time may be extended to September if necessary, but the money will be withdrawn on October 1st if not spent.

Step one involves filling out forms; Paul said the packet of forms is about an inch thick. Ours is the only cemetery. Most of the other grant projects involve surveys of historic houses. One project will tie its town's demolition-delay bylaw to its historic district.

2. House plaques—no report.

3. Town Hall model—Matt Williston still wants to do this. Paul spoke to the high school teacher who has access to the 3-D printer there, and he was told that the Town Hall replica would not be a suitable project for the printer. We discussed the cost of the model if Matt builds it for us, and we still have questions. It is a lot of money for something we are not sure will be appreciated by the people of Medway. There is also concern that, even if it is a rotating display, where would its permanent home be? Would it really be displayed, or would it eventually be shunted off to a back shelf or storage room? We plan to discuss it further.

Adjourn at 8:20. Bruce moved for adjournment, Gene seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Jeanne Johnson, Chairman

These minutes prepared by Jeanne Johnson.