

Medway Historical Commission
Minutes
Medway Senior Center, 76 Oakland Street, Medway, MA
Wednesday November 7, 2018, 7:30PM

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

Guest: Barbara Saint Andre, Director of Community and Economic Development (she stayed until 7:40)

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

Chairman Jeanne Johnson introduced new member Kathleen Hickey and new secretary, Ashley Bemis.

Citizens comment:

No citizens present

2. New Business:

Location of ~~monthly~~ Commission meetings has changed to the Medway Senior Center due to handicap accessibility concerns at the Historical Society Museum

3. **Notice to Intent to Demolish:** None as of today

4. **Review of Meeting Minutes of October 3rd meeting:**

A motion to accept the October 3, 2018 meeting minutes was made by Member Bruce Hamblin and seconded by Member Cher Hamilton. All agreed.

5. **Treasurers Report:** (Moved from “Old Business”) Gene reported that we have \$200 in our general budget and \$2,500 left from past funding approved for signage, for a total of \$2,700. Part of the funds will be used to purchase an inscribed memorial bench for the Civil War Veterans area at Oakland Cemetery.

6. **CPC Report:** Gene reported that they met Monday, Nov. 5th and hosted two presentations. The first was with the Playground Project Committee, which needs funding for new playgrounds at McGovern School (\$235,000) and Memorial School (\$308,000). Principals and parents also attended. They are asking that some of the funding come from CPA accounts. CPC members made no decision and suggested other sources of funding should be considered: fundraisers, contributions, school budget, parent groups, organizing a “memorial brick walkway” and charging for the bricks, etc.

The second presentation was made by the Affordable Housing Committee with plans for 96 units on West Street. They requested \$1,000,000. Gene stated the CPC already granted them approximately \$1,000,000.

Other articles the CPC has placed on the warrant for the Town Meeting are \$88,000 for new trails; \$7,000 for existing trails needing improvements; \$13,000 to fund a consultant for our Evergreen Cemetery project; and the transfer from the reserve fund to general town funds \$92,000 from all 3 sources for overestimates of payments to the CPA- see October minutes for more details.

The Town of Medway website now has the Project Selection Criteria uploaded which we discussed at earlier meetings.

7. Old Business: Project Updates

Evergreen Cemetery and Grants - Paul is contacting researchers for estimates of the cost to hire a consultant to complete the process of nominating the cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places in order to make a reasonable grant request. The average estimate is about \$12,000. Barbara Saint Andre is assisting with this grant application. Paul also learned that hiring a consultant for nominating the Jacob Ide House and the Charles Torrey House to the National Register will cost an estimated \$6,500 each. The Torrey house has been vinyl sided but that will not be a problem because of the history of the house, which includes its being part of the Underground Railroad. Barbara suggested bringing up funding for the two houses at the Spring town meeting and also suggested we apply for the Evergreen grant now and work on the houses in the spring. The grant application is due November 19th so it needs to be mailed by next week.

House plaques for historic houses. Cher is working on getting a copy of town seal to see if can be replicated, and she will need to get quotes on pre-drilled holes on house plaques.

8. New Business that may come before this commission

Introduce Barbara St. Andre, Director of Community and Economic and Development (we did this early in the meeting)

Barbara -- The Building Department/Historical Commission demolition application is available online at the town website, but pictures can't be embedded yet. They will work on that but applicants must bring pictures in person or attach them as pdf's or jpeg's with the application for now.

Cher told us that the new owners of the historic house at 181 Main Street are redoing the property and plan to keep it as original as possible. That is very good news for the Rabbit Hill Historic District and Medway.

The Thank-you event hosted by the Board of Selectmen will be held on Monday, December 10, 2018 at Thayer House. All Historical Commission members are planning to attend event.

Next Meeting: December 5, 2018 at 7:30PM

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bruce Hamblin, seconded by Vice Chairman Russell and approved unanimously.

The Commission adjourned at 8:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Bemis

Meeting Recording Secretary