

WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
January 21, 2020  
Kelly Room, Town Hall  
75 Middle Street, Weymouth, MA  
MINUTES

2020 NOV 16 AM 11:36

**PRESENT:** Jim Clarke, Chairman; Jenn Weiss-Donovan; Mark Schneider; Cathy Torrey

**ALSO PRESENT:** Eric Schneider, Principal Planner

**NOT PRESENT:** Mike Murphy

Chairman Clarke called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**MINUTES**

Ms. Torrey made a MOTION to APPROVE the minutes of October 15, 2019. Mr. Schneider SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Ms. Torrey made a MOTION to APPROVE the minutes of December 3, 2019. Mr. Schneider SECONDED the MOTION. Discussion. Chairman Clarke stated there is a correction to the minutes; page one, Memorial Committee Report should be "corner of Torrey Street and Park Avenue" not Tower and Park Avenue. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**HISTORIC PLAQUE PROGRAM - 26 Summer Street application; promotion letter discussion**

Chairman Clarke reported on the Front Street Historic National Register District, photo of the house at 26 Summer Street. The house is known as the Daniel Hunt house. It's a circa 1820 Colonial Cape Cottage. This is one of the contributing houses to the Front Street Historic District. The application is from Robert E. Connolly, the owner.

Ms. Torrey made a MOTION to APPROVE the application for historic plaque. Ms. Weiss-Donovan SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Chairman Clarke stated that he would like the approval of the commission to choose one of the following historic districts and get a plaque promotion letter out to the district:

- Sea Street District
- Meeting House District
- Front Street District
- Central Square District

Ms. Torrey asked would the letter come from the Weymouth Historical Commission. Chairman Clarke stated yes, we would tailor a letter and perk up interest in the area. The letter should go to contributing properties; everyone in the area. Chairman Clarke suggested doing Central Square District because it's the first district approved and the smallest. We shall send out the letters in early March for the spring.

**WESSAGUSSET SITE signage update**

Mr. Schneider stated he received a letter from Andrew Hultin. Mr. Hultin has received communication from Mayor Hedlund to move ahead with the signage project. Mr. Hultin

will write what will be on the sign. Mr. Schneider sent Mr. Hultin chapters from his forthcoming book on early Weymouth history for his review. Mr. Hultin will consult with the Recreation Department and when Mr. Schneider returns from vacation they will discuss again. Photo's of the potential sign samples were passed around.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

##### Jody Purdy-Quinlan

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan stated the neighbors will be happy with anything done to recognize the site.

##### Doug Smock

Mr. Smock stated he made a proposal last June and wants to be sure that he and his neighbors are involved in the process.

Mr. Schneider stated he would be more than happy to email copies to Jody and Doug of his emails on this subject to Mr. Hultin going forward. Mr. Clarke noted that the Recreation Department is taking the lead on this.

#### TOWN CLERK'S VAULT - document review update

Chairman Clarke stated since the visit to the vault; Chairman Clarke has asked Kate Marshall to look at CPA funds to see if money is available for archival projects. Chairman Clarke suggests this commission, in the next few months try to put a proposal together for CPC. Mr. M. Schneider asked is the goal to hire a person to transfer the information? Mr. Clarke stated that the three goal would be ; organization, preservation, and digitization.

Chairman Clarke stated he is waiting to hear back from Kate Marshall as to what is eligible from the state, then work on a CPC application with the Town Clerk

#### BRAINTREE HISTORICAL SOCIETY - panel report

Chairman Clarke stated panels that were in canoe room are at Braintree Historical Society; all are in good shape. We need to determine who owns the paintings that were on the wall in the canoe room.

#### NORFOLK REGISTER OF DEEDS - VETERANS HISTORICAL PROJECT - update

The commission is working with George Pontes, Veterans Agent, to nominate a person from Weymouth for this project. Mr. Clarke has also spoken with Frank Burke, head of the Veterans Council, and mentioned General Bates and Col. Mary Quinn, who passed away last month, as possible nominees.

#### LIBRARY BRANCH pre-opening events report

Chairman Clarke stated he had a brief meeting earlier today with Ms. Weiss-Donovan. We are making some progress but have many items to evaluate before the event is good to go.

#### LIBRARY HISTORY ROOM- discussion

Ms. Torrey stated she had a tour of the new library last week. There are two rooms for the new Weymouth History room: one locked and one open with displays.

The library has many historical items including a Copy of the Declaration of Independence that Reverend Smith read from the pulpit at First Church and then Reverend Smith signed on the back.

Mr. M. Schneider stated the shoe making industry should be on display but how?

Chairman Clarke asked who is taking the lead on what will be in the history room? Ms. Torrey stated every plan for the room has the canoe in it. Ms. Torrey stated the town owns a significant sculpture that will be on display. Chairman Clarke suggested he and Ms. Torrey meet with Mr. MacLean and report back to the committee.

Mr. E. Schneider asked who owns the shoe history materials at Weymouth High School? Ms. Torrey stated Weymouth Historical Society. Mark Schneider suggested that their should be an effort to show the whole history of the town.

#### PRATT HOUSE - update

Mr. E. Schneider stated this project is delayed.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

##### Weymouth 400

Chairman Clarke stated we need to have a conversation about what our role should be with this group.

##### Paper Donation

We need to compose an inventory of the donation and send a thank you letter to the family that donated the materials.

##### Two Members Short- WHC

Chairman Clarke stated the Weymouth Historical Commission is 2 members short currently, which makes it difficult at this time because we are busy. Chairman Clarke asked Mr. E. Schneider to see if he or Mr. Luongo can press the mayor to get new members as soon as possible.

##### 4 Mutton Lane - Plaque

Mr. E. Schneider asked committee members if anyone has an interest in helping put verbiage 4 Mutton Lane. If anyone could help put verbiage on a plaque on 4 Mutton Lane for the owner. Mr. Weiss-Donovan offered to help.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Weymouth Historical Commission will be held on March 17, 2020.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Torrey made a MOTION to ADJOURN at 7:50PM. Mr. M. Schneider SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Malloy  
Recording Secretary



Approved:  
Chairman

James Clarke,



Dated: