



TOWN OF WEYMOUTH, MA 2022 JAN 20 AM 10:46
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2021
TUFTS LIBRARY - 7:00 PM

Present : J. Clarke, K. Donnelly, D. Sullivan, M. Schneider, C. Torrey

Staff: E. Schneider

1. Minutes - J. Clarke called the meeting to order at 7PM and stated that no minutes were available for review.
2. Demolition Delay Additions - The commission agreed to move forward with additions from the Meeting House and Central Square districts (15 total) and prepare a letter for the current owners explaining the process of demolition delay inclusion. A motion was made by D. Sullivan, seconded by C. Torrey to set the hearing date for February 8 and prepare a draft letter for review. Voted Unanimously
3. Weymouth Lecture Series Report - M. Schneider stated that the three fall lectures went well with nearly 100 attendees at each event. This spring, 2022 the three lectures will be the rehabilitation of the Abigail Adams Birthplace by Tim Orwig, Abigail Adams and her time in Weymouth by Michelle Coughlin, and General Bates and the 12th Ma. Regiment in the Civil War by Mike Murphy. In the fall, Nick Bunker will speak about Thomas Weston and the early settlement and there will be a Maria Weston Chapman interpreter. Mark noted that John West, from Weymouth, England, had planned a concert but has cancelled his trip due to Covid concerns.
4. Community Preservation Committee report - C. Torrey stated that there had been no meetings since the last report but the public hearing would be held in February. The work on the First Church is moving forward on schedule.
5. Cemetery Committee - J. Clarke noted that an assessment of the condition of the town cemeteries was completed and work has started on the Ashwood Cemetery. DPW will continue the work as it can be scheduled between other activities. The Cemetery Committee will need to review the condition of the gravestones and determine what repairs are required.

6. Development Update - E. Schneider stated that the project proposed for 46 Pleasant Street has not moved forward. Demolition work at 88 Pleasant Street is ongoing and the entrance arch has been preserved. Eric said that he would contact the Francer Building developers to arrange a tour for the commission.
7. Heitage Park - J. Clarke noted that the he had no response from the letter sent by the commission to the Mayor. K. Donnelly stated that preparing a timeline without a clear understanding of how and where it would be used made no sense. M. Schneider commented that he doesn't like the location, it's too busy and noisy with vehicular traffic, people won't read the timeline. Kerry suggested the use of a Q.R. code with the timeline to allow people to read the material on their schedule. The sense of the commission was to have Eric and Jim meet with John MacLeod, project manager for the park development, to discuss the commission's concerns.
8. Beals Park - J. Clarke reviewed the draft letter prepared to sumit to the town and the park design consultant. There were no changes to the draft. A motion was made by M. Schneider,seconded by D. Sullivan to submit the letter. Voted Unanimously
9. Iron Hill Park - J. Clarke suggested that all members complete the online survey. Eric reviewed the meeting topics and the goals of the plan. Jim suggested that members look at the Back River Trail Plan, which includes improvements to the Iron Hill Park area. This will put the park plans in context with the other park improvements along the Back River.
10. Monthly History Topics - Members had reviewed the memo prepared by Jim. Other options to get the information to the public were discussed, including using the web site and a newsletter. This idea still needs more work and won't be ready for January. Jim stated that even if we are able to do parts of it over a shorter timeline, it could still be successful. Kerry, Jim, and Eric will meet with IT to discuss different ways to present the information early in the new year.
11. Other Business - Jim reported that the Elmer Donnelly stone is engraved and set at King Oak Park. Members were encouraged to take the library survey. Jim stated the Park Department asked for any information on Irish sites in Weymouth that could be connected to the South Shore Irish Trail. Other than the Catholic churches, no other sites were noted. C.Torrey asked whether any banners would be installed around the Meeting House District.
12. Next Meetings - These were scheduled for January 11 and February 8.
13. Adjournment - A motion was made by Mark, seconded by Kerry, to adjourn at 8:10 PM. Voted Unanimously

James F. Clarke, 1/13/22