

**WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**January 14th, 2013 Meeting**  
**Francis Kelly Room/Weymouth Town Hall**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Ed Walker, Mary Dorey, Cathy Torrey and Rodney Lundin  
**ABSENT:** Don Mathewson and Jody Purdy-Quinlan  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Debbie Sullivan, Weymouth Historical Society  
Erica Dumont, Weymouth Historical Society  
Jody Lehrer/Community Development Coordinator, Office of Planning  
and Community Development

**Call to Order 7:00 p.m.**

Chairman Walker called the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 meeting of the Weymouth Historical Commission to order at 7:07 PM.

**Approval of December 5th, 2012 Minutes**

Mr. Lundin moved to approve the minutes of December 5th, 2012 meeting.

Ms. Dorey seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**REPORTS- Town Liaison:**

**Clapp Building Update (Jody)**

Ms. Lehrer reported that the change of zoning was approved last Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013, commenting that there was an appeal process for any who were opposed to the change. The developer, Mr. Deady, will be constructing 20 condominium units in the Clapp Memorial Building, with plans for town houses in the rear.

Ms. Lehrer went on to say that Mr. Deady planned on setting aside \$36,500 for the purpose of enhancing the Central Square Historical District. He will do this in conjunction with input from a small subcommittee with members that include a representative from the East Weymouth Civic Association and one from this Historical Commission (Jody Purdy-Quinlan).

**Emery Estates Update**

Next Ms. Lehrer spoke about the CPC/Community Preservation Commission approving the amount of \$90,000 for the Emery Estate access road and for parking design.

**Fore River Bridge Update**

Ms. Lehrer then informed members of the upcoming Fore River Bridge Replacement Project Informational Meeting that will be hosted by Mass. Department of Transportation. It is scheduled to be held at the Whipple Senior Center, 182 Green Street at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

### Fog Plan Review

75% Fogg Library Plan review has been scheduled.

### House Signs

#### Application for a Historical Plaque - 61 Webb Street

Ms. Lehrer addressed a recent application she received for a historical plaque. It was from Mr. and Mrs. Anderson of 61 Webb Street. In the application it stated that the house was 106 years old (built in 1903), which qualified it for consideration/approval.

At this point Ms. Lehrer reviewed the status of the recently approved historical plaques, which were as follows:

- 44 Front Street
- 12 Sea Street
- 21 Pearl Street
- 32 Pearl Street
- 576 Broad Street
- Unitarian Universalist Church of Weymouth
- Bicknell Condo Trust located on Sea Street
- New: 61 Webb Street (before them this evening)

Ms. Lehrer added if we include tonight's application, there would be a total (8) that would be forwarded to the sign maker. She said once the signs are completed and received back at the office, Mayor Kay will be notified and a date/time for the presentation/reception will be scheduled.

Ms. Lehrer then distributed a handout to the members depicting pictures of all of the approved properties.

Ms. Torrey moved to approve a historical plaque for 61 Webb Street/property owners Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan.

Mr. Lundin seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

#### King Philips War Memorial & Surrounding Town Land

Mr. Lundin told members that he hasn't heard anything new about the King Phillip Memorial/location, adding that he thought Ms. Purdy-Quinlan had been working on it.

Chairman Walker explained to the Historical Society members present that the Commission members have been talking about expanding the area beyond the King Phillip Memorial. This could include taking some trees down, opening up the area, creating a path as well as a placing a storyboard/kiosk with pictures of the original town hall, etc. at the site.

Mr. Lundin emphasized that first they must come up with a definitive plan, noting that they have

the layout. He thought they might look into the services of a landscape architect.

Chairman Walker said he would talk with Jim Clarke about it and hopefully come up with a rough draft. He would also like to hear comments from interested parties.

Ms. Torrey asked if the state would be involved in the process and the Chairman replied 'yes'

Mr. Lundin noted that the present plan of the area shows a brick walkway, but wanted to point out that in actuality it is a concrete walkway.

Ms. Sullivan thought that at one time it had been brick, with the Chairman commenting that he thought that walkway had been removed when the school went up - adding that he was not sure if it was still in the same place.

Ms. Dorey asked if the Town had a landscape architect on staff and the response was 'no'.

Chairman Walker viewed it presently an overgrown lot.

Ms. Lehrer told members that Jim Clarke previously spoke about having one of the businesses in the community responsible for it.

Chairman Walker suggested they discuss this subject further at their next meeting and then next step would be to present their ideas to Jim Clarke.

Ms. Dorey noted that there was room for parking by Winter Court- and that Winter Court is one-way to Washington St.

It was also noted that the area being discussed was 21,159 sq. ft. in size.

Chairman Walker recommended that they leave some trees as is for a buffer.

Mr. Lundin again commented 'first we need a plan', adding 'one with contours' - adding that he thought Ms. Purdy-Quinlan was working on this project.

The Chairman acknowledged that she was, but added at this point he thought she was more involved with the Clapp Memorial building/developer.

It was agreed that Mr. Lundin, Ms. Dorey and the Chairman would serve on a subcommittee for the purpose of coming up with ideas for this project, then presenting them to the Commission/Jim Clarke.

Mr. Lundin told members that he would try to come up with a plan that included contours.

**Old Business:**

### Clapp Memorial Update (cont'd)

Ms. Sullivan/Weymouth Historical Society informed the Commission that she has forwarded historical information (1923 album) on Clapp Memorial to the developer, Mr. Deady, who had requested some information for his proposed storyboard.

Chairman Walker saw it as a 'work in progress' and Ms. Sullivan agreed.

### New Business:

#### Meeting with Mass. DOT/Dept. of Transportation re. Work on Rt. 3/Rt. 53

Ms. Lehrer informed members that she received a letter from Ma. DOT requesting input (re. Section 106) regarding the resurfacing of Rt. 3, North up to Rt. 18/3 interchange (Hingham/Weymouth). The work will include resurfacing the road, paving of the deck, upgrading guardrails.

Ms. Lehrer wanted members to know that none of the work will impact the old Pleasant Street Cemetery, adding that the letter was more or less informative.

#### Abigail Adams Parents' Graves

Ms. Sullivan told the Commission that the Historical Society received funding for the work on Abigail Adams parents' graves, but the person scheduled to do the work has been unable to do it due to unforeseen personal issues. That aside, she was hoping the work would be done by March /April. She planned to check with Jim Clarke on the correct way to proceed.

Ms. Lehrer said that Kate Marshall in her office is involved in this and has been referred to Phil Bergen/Ma. Historical Commission regarding the process, adding that Mr. Bergen had some suggestions for her. This procedural information can be found on their website.

Chairman Walker said they might possibly need to find a mason who is qualified to perform the work and then go before the CPC (Conservation Protection Commission) to request funding.

#### Fogg Library Update

Chairman Walker asked Ms. Lehrer if there was an overseer re. the work at the Fogg Library - and she responded 'no'.

#### Abigail Adams Park

Ms. Dorey said she was curious about the property the Town acquired next to Abigail Adams Park/Back River. She described the property as abutting the Abigail Adams Park and essentially being marshland. She wanted to know if the Town had any plans for it.

Chairman Walker thought the property was owned by the Kibbey family.

Ms. Dorey went on to describe the property being overgrown and over run, adding there is so much overgrowth you can't even see the salt marsh. She noted that further down by David's Island Road is an area where you could see the salt marsh, adding that she thought it was the only salt

marsh in Town. She felt that if the overgrowth was removed then everyone could enjoy the view/salt marsh.

It was stated that in order to do anything with the property, they would first need permission from the property owner(s), as it was private property.

To take any action it was noted that there were two issues to be addressed:

- 1) Permission from the owner as it is private property
- 2) As it is conservation land, would work be permitted there?

#### Discussion re. Emery Estate

Mr. Lundin noted that \$90,000 had been set aside for Emery Road/parking and wanted to know if there were any definitive plans.

Ms. Torrey, who serves on the Emery Estates Advisory Committee, told members that Mayor Kay had asked the Advisory Committee members to remain on the committee and act as advisers, adding that the Committee had come up with some recommendations. Further Mayor Kay stated she was going to form an (Emery Estate) Implementation Committee.

Ms. Lehrer explained that the monies (\$90,000) were for design options re. Emery Estate improvements and an access road - according to Jim Clarke.

Ms. Dorey commented, regardless of use they needed roads/parking to use the property.

Ms. Lehrer told members that they couldn't use the main road because of residents' concerns. She said it was her understanding that the road where the residents' live is not an option (re. access road).

Ms. Torrey told members that the discussion they had with the members was about one road in and one road out.

Ms. Lehrer told the Commission that Jim Clarke would have this information, so she would check with him and get back to the members on his response.

Ms. Torrey said that there was also some concern about 'runoff'.

Members questioned 'who was the applicant' for the \$90,000 with the CPC.

Ms. Torrey wanted the Commission to know that the residents have been very cooperative and they understand the need for access (this is in preference to the property being used for multi-family housing/condominiums). She wanted to clarify that during their meeting with Mayor Kay, ideas were just put out there, nothing was finalized.

### Fore River Replacement Bridge/Historical Plaque

Chairman Walker referred to historical plaques re. Fore River Replacement Bridge. He was looking for additional input and was in favor of the Commission being involved in the language that would go on the plaques.

Ms. Sullivan told the members that she found some historical information while she was cleaning out the museum.

Chairman Walker said it came from the Railroad Norton Street Bridge, adding it's a Builder's Plaque that originated when they put the Greenbush Line in (Boston Bridge). He thought that possibly they could incorporate the new with the old.

Ms. Dorey pointed out that there was still a plaque on the gatehouse, with the Chairman adding that according to Jim Clarke it belongs to the owners of the power plant and is not Town property.

### Discussion re. Disposition of Town Historical Plaques, etc.

Chairman Walker thought that the subject of plaques would be coming up again soon, adding those plaque(s) might have originated with the WPA (during the Roosevelt administration in the 30's & 40's).

Ms. Sullivan said the list she found includes the names of all the veterans buried from the Revolutionary War right up to the 1930's, adding that the task of cleaning out the museum is almost complete.

The Chairman noted that the federal government is looking for paintings from that time period.

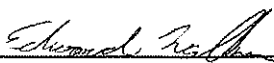
Ms. Sullivan commented that those particular paintings were 'pastels'. She added that the painting of the old high school was painted by Arthur Vallen - and that there were others there that included one of the Jefferson School and the Nevin School.

### Adjournment

Ms. Torrey moved to adjourn at 8 PM.

Mr. Lundin seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

  
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Ed Walker, Chairman, WHC

3-12-2012  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan DeChristoforo  
Recording Secretary