

**Weymouth Historical Commission  
Record of Proceedings and Minutes**

**Tuesday, March 11, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.  
Tufts Library, Canoe Room  
46 Broad Street, Weymouth, MA 02188**

**Members Present:** Ed Walker, Chairman  
Rodney Lundin, Vice Chairman  
Nancy Cameron  
Erica Dumont  
Don Mathewson  
Jodi Purdy-Quinlan  
Cathy Torrey

**Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Jody Lehrer, Community Development Coordinator  
Abby McCabe, Recording Secretary  
Jim Clarke, Planning Director

There being a quorum of the Commission, the Chair called the meeting of the Historic Commission to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Minutes:**

On a motion made by Commissioner Torrey, seconded by Commissioner Lundin, the February 11, 2014 meeting minutes were approved as written by a vote of 4-0 (Commissioners Purdy-Quinlan, Dumont, and Mathewson arrived after the vote).

**Reports:**

Ms. Lehrer reported that a soft opening for the Fogg Library is scheduled for mid-April. The 75% design plans for Legion and Lovell Fields was held last week and Legion Field will go out to bid in April. The Planning Director visited the Civil War Monument and Abolition Manuscript site today after a complaint regarding the safety of the stairs and the Director reported that the stones may need some repairs but did not seem to be a safety hazard. He thought it may be possible to have the stones repaired with Community Development Block Grant funds later in the year. The Emery Estate Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on March 18. The Chair asked if Deb Sullivan, of the Historical Society, could provide the contact info for a stone mason for the Civil War Monument.

Commissioner Dumont arrived at 7:10 p.m.

The Library Director, Robert McLean, was present and informed the Commission that he is seeking Community Preservation Committee funds for a matching grant program designed to help preserve the Town's Civil War history through the restoration of monuments, memorials, or other significant documents related to the Civil War and asked the Historical Commission for a letter of support for the grant due April 1, 2014.

Commissioner Torrey motioned to have staff prepare a letter of support for the Chairman's signature to the Library Department for the grant submission, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Cameron and unanimously voted 5-0.

Ms. Lehrer reported that the Commission has received one new request for a historic plaque at 95 Norton Street from Susan Vaughan for a structure that was built in 1868 and that the Commission still has to vote on the plaque request for 901-903 Commercial Street, owned by Thomas R. Wylie, as it was continued from the last meeting. Ms. Lehrer distributed photographs and the application and noted that the structure at 901 Commercial Street is over 100 years old.

On a motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Torrey, the Commission voted to approve historic plaques for 901-903 Commercial Street and 95 Norton Street by a vote of 5-0 (Commissioner Purdy-Quinlan and Mathewson arrived after the vote).

#### **Old Business:**

The Chairman noted that there were no further updates on the Wessagussett site at this time. Commissioner Lundin informed the Commission that a local contractor has volunteered to donate the material and money, estimated to be under \$100.00, for the U.S. Marine Corp sword case that will be installed at the McCulloch Building. Commissioner Torrey noted that the Commission should send a thank you to the donor. Commissioner Lundin said that he would provide Ms. Lehrer with the donor's contact information to prepare a thank you letter to be signed by the Chairman.

Commissioner Purdy-Quinlan arrived at 7:21 p.m.

#### **New Business:**

The Chairman introduced Brandon DuFresne of Found Legends Restorations to the Commission whom was invited to present his findings and proposal for the preservation of the canoe case.

Commissioner Mathewson arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. DuFresne reported that he recently evaluated the canoe case and found that there is mold in the case as the dehumidifier is no longer working correctly. The canoe had a polyethylene glycol bath when it was first discovered in the 1960s; however, methods for preservation have since changed as it is now known that the initial polyethylene glycol coating is no longer sufficient for infinite preservation. He estimates that the canoe has only about a year left until it completely cracks. He proposes a two phase conservation and preservation processes; phase one to perform cleaning and phase two would be a new case in argon gas that would need to be topped off every year. Also a new UV lens protector installed over the lights to prevent long term damage. A quote provided by Found Legends estimates over \$9,000 for the work.

During the construction the entire floor and area would be sealed as all work is done on site. If Found Legends does the work the Commission would be provided a complete proposal document, estimate, the findings, and a maintenance schedule. Mr. DuFresne explained that any work that his company does is durable and can easily be undone such as the glue used to do the preservation.

On a motion made by Commissioner Purdy-Quinlan, seconded by Commissioner Cameron, the Commission voted to accept the proposal from Found Legends and move forward with the request for Community Preservation Funds by a vote of 7-0.

The Chairman noted that the next Community Preservation Committee meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2014. Ms. Lehrer will get the request on the Committee's agenda.

### **Announcements**

Commissioner Purdy-Quinlan informed the Commission about an upcoming event on Sunday, April 6 and summarized her findings regarding the Wessegussett site and the upcoming 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She also distributed old news articles that she found regarding the discovery of the stone with the ancient writing.

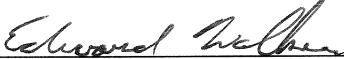
Commissioner Torrey also noted that there is an Abigail Adams program scheduled for March 27<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. was made by Commissioner Torrey and seconded by Commissioner Cameron and unanimously voted 7-0.

Ms. Lehrer informed the Commission that she will not be available to attend the May 13, 2014 meeting.

Next Meeting – April 8, 2014

	<u>5/13/2014</u>
Ed Walker, Chairman	Date