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WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION
October 8th, 2013 Meeting
Francis Kelly Room/Weymouth Town Hall

PRESENT: Chairman Ed Walker, Rodney Lundin, Cathy Torrey, Don Mathewson,
Nancy Cameron and Jody Purdy-Quinlan

ABSENT: Mary Dorey

ALSO PRESENT: Jim Clarke, Director of Planning and Community Development
Erica Dumont, new Commission member to be sworn in
Debbie Sullivan, Weymouth Historical Commission

I. Call to Order 7:00 PM

Chairman Walker called the October 8th, 2013 meeting of the Weymouth Historical Commission to order at 7:04 PM.

Minutes: June 11, 2013 and Sept. 10th, 2013

Since the September 10th, 2013 minutes had not been disseminated, they were tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Lundin moved to approve the June 11th, 2013 minutes as submitted.

Ms. Cameron seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

II. Reports - Town Liaison

Mr. Clarke and the Chairman took a moment to introduce new member Erica Dumont (of the Weymouth Historical Society) to the Commission. Although she was yet to be sworn in by the Town Clerk, she was invited to sit in and observe the meeting.

Fogg Library Restoration

Mr. Clarke reported that the renovation project at the Fogg Library is on schedule. The plastering work is complete and they have begun painting. At this point he expects all work will be completed by the end of this calendar year. He then took a moment to pass around pictures of the library which were taken this date.

Mr. Clarke went on to say that the downstairs looks good too, commenting that the woodwork has been cleaned and refinished.

Chairman Walker asked if this included the ductwork and Mr. Clarke replied 'yes'.

When asked about the installation of sprinklers, Mr. Clarke told the members that they were not required.

Ms. Dumont asked why this was the case and Mr. Clarke felt it was due in part because of cost limitations.

The Chairman then asked about the shaft and Mr. Clarke told him that the elevator is not in yet, but the work is progressing.

Mr. Clarke informed the members that the Friends of the Library were seeking funds to cover the cost of the landscaping work. Further Rob McLain, Library Director who was away right now was expecting they would probably schedule the reopening for some time in February. Mr. Clarke commented, "it is a pretty amazing looking, they did a nice job". He noted that the plasterers were 'old country Italians' and their work was great!

Abigail Adams House

Mr. Clarke stated that Community Preservation Funds were used, in part, for this work. They have just completed the handicapped access ramp, with the HVAC going in, adding they were near completion.

North Cemetery

Mr. Clarke informed members that the stone markers are being repaired, commenting that it was slow work. He was hopeful they would have it finished before the weather turns.

Emery Estates

Mr. Clarke said there were a few things to report on in reference to Emery Estates. First they have hired an engineering firm to look at access off Commercial Street, noting that they can't use the existing driveway (looking downhill near Hurley's). The Advisory Committee has a couple of other locations on the property they can consider, referring to where you come out onto Commercial Street. He noted that having parking on the street would not be cost effective, as they could need space for parking for up to 200 cars.

Mr. Clarke went on to say that the community supports the farm idea - recently they had people out including the Trustees of the Reservation to tour the site. At this point they are still in flux on how to proceed.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan asked about the suggestion of hosting buggy rides at Legion Field or Emery and Mr. Clarke replied 'possibly next year'.

Clapp Memorial Update

Mr. Clarke reported that the development is moving along, but he was not sure of the status of meetings/meeting schedule.

Chairman Walker commented that meetings have been called but not held.

Mr. Clarke told him that the owner/developer has a lot going on at this time - with his family as well as with the building. Additionally he has purchased 555 Broad Street and has plans to fix up the exterior and eventually the interior for possible apartments.

The Chairman pointed out that location/area is designated a Historical area.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan thought the owner might possibly be considering using the back end of the property for parking.

Legion Field Update

Chairman Walker asked Mr. Clarke if the plaque was back up and he replied 'yes'.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan asked why the people couldn't access the grounds and Mr. Clarke told her that they can, adding that the gate is open where the tennis courts are located.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan referred to using the walking trail/track there.

III. Old Business - Weymouth Diorama Map Disposition

Chairman Walker said they are looking into disposing of the Weymouth Diorama Map.

Mr. Clarke thought this should be okay, noting that Jody Lehrer's been out there. He asked if the Commission took an official vote on this and the Chairman replied 'yes'.

Mr. Clarke told the Commission that he would get a letter to Mayor Kay stated that it should be disposed of. He then asked the members if there was anything there they might like to keep.

The Chairman responded that they could use the old projector. In referring to the map, he said you could get above it and look down on it.

Mr. Lundin asked who would be taking it apart.

Debbie Sullivan (guest from the Weymouth Historical Society) said they would get people together to do that.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan asked the Chairman if he would be responsible for this and he replied that he would, also commenting that the electric boxes were shot.

Mr. Clarke offered to do the coordination.

Chairman Walker noted that they would need to work from the top down. He told Mr. Clarke that he would wait to get the final 'go' from him.

IV. New Business

There was no new business to report this evening.

In response to Ms. Purdy-Quinlan inquiry about discussing a new agenda item not on the agenda, the Chairman replied that if it is not already on the agenda prior to the meeting then they could not address it - as was discussed at previous meetings.

In support of the Chairman, Mr. Clarke commented that this same topic came up at a recent meeting he attended and because the residents regarding that topic were not advised/present he urged them not to discuss it because of possible ramifications.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan said she would like everyone on the Commission given information on the purpose of the Historical Commission and would like to see this on the next agenda.

Chairman Walker stated that he has obtained this information from the Massachusetts Historical Commission in the past - which he received from them along with a DVD. Since that time he has passed this info out to new members, requesting those that he gave it to return it to him for future use.

Copies of the Massachusetts Historical Commission info will be given to members Nancy Cameron and Erica Dumont as soon as the Chairman receives it back from the members that have it.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan stated that at the November meeting she would like to discuss the purpose of the Historical Commission, in addition to setting goals - place on the agenda.

Chairman Walker commented that he felt the Commission as doing a pretty good job, adding that he continues to discuss various topics and items of interest with Jim Clarke. Lastly he agreed that they could set goals at the next meeting.

Ms. Torrey said that last year the members said they would stick to completing work at the Memorial located at Middle/Washington Streets - and she affirmed that they did.

It was noted that Nancy Cameron and Rod Lundin have the DVDs the Chairman referred to and would bring them in.

Ms. Torrey wanted to compliment the work done re. the 390th Anniversary - commenting she found it to be a very nice historical celebration. She spoke briefly about the services referring in part to the recitation about the Mayflower, the MLK speech as well as honoring Rev. Gary Blume - the second longest serving minister of the First Church.

Ms. Cameron noted that Mayor Kay presented the Church with a commemoration and Town Councilor Mike Molisse presented a citation from the Town Council thanking Rev. Blume for his years of service to the people and the Town. Overall she thought it was great! She also noted that others in attendance included Rob McLain, Library Director and Pat O'Leary from the Food Pantry. In closing she said included in the historical readings were letters written by Abigail Adams.

V. Announcements

Next Meeting

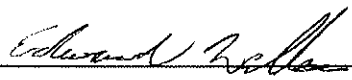
The next meeting of the Weymouth Historical Commission will be held on Tuesday, November 12th, 2013.

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Cameron moved to adjourn at 7:45 PM.

Mr. Lundin seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED



12/3/2013

Ed Walker, Chairman, WHC

Date

Respectfully submitted,
Susan DeChristoforo
Recording Secretary