

WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION
May 10th, 2011 Meeting
Francis Kelly Room/Weymouth Town Hall

PRESENT: Chairman Ted Clarke, Mary Dorey, Don Mathewson, Cathy Torrey, Phil Smith and Ed Walker

ABSENT: Jody Purdy-Quinlan

ALSO PRESENT: Jody Lehrer/Community Development Coordinator, Office of Planning and Community Development

Call to Order 7 p.m.

Chairman Clarke called the May 10th, 2011 meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Minutes

Mr. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the April 12th, 2011 meeting.

Ms. Dorey seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Reports - Town Liaison

Ms. Lehrer said she had nothing new to report at this time.

Old Business:

Demo-Delay By-Law Review/Additional Listings

Ms. Lehrer told members they were still reviewing the 'demo delay' list, looking for records and plans and making sure they are up to date for the future.

Chairman Clarke asked about the possibility of changing the 'demo delay law' in regard to the required criteria. He suggested they might want to consider extending the time period from six months to one year. He felt it would allow people more time to get something done. He asked members to give it more thought and suggested they wait to discuss it further when Jim Clarke could be present.

Kevitt Award

Chairman Clarke asked members if they had given some thought for this year's recipient for the Chester Kevitt Award.

Ms. Dorey informed members that Frances Merten died a month ago. She had been married to Joe Merten's brother (the last recipient of the Chester Kevitt Award).

Mr. Smith added that she was also a member of the Historical & Genealogical Society.

Mr. Walker interjected that he believed she was also a librarian at the Fogg Library.

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WEYMOUTH, MASS.

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It was agreed that members would let the presentation of the Chester Kevitt Award pass for this year and address it again in 2012.

Civil War Lecture Series

Mr. Smith will be giving his lecture on Weymouth's impact on the civil war on Sunday, June 5th. His talk will include the subject of James Bates.

At this point Ms. Dorey wanted to note that the Chairman's civil war lecture this past week was well attended and received very well.

Chairman Clarke commented that it was on local cable, adding that he wasn't that pleased with his presentation, in part, because the lighting was poor and he had an allergy.

In regard to Mr. Smith's upcoming presentation, Mr. Smith said he would be getting the pictures to Jim Clarke this week - adding he expected most of his presentation would be impromptu.

Chairman Clarke said he believed the next meeting of the Civil War Committee would take place on June 19th.

New Business:

660 Middle Street (Walker) - Demo Delay Property

This item was on the agenda at the request of Mr. Walker.

Chairman Clarke informed Ed Walker that Jim Clarke has informed him that the Commission had already passed on 660 Middle Street.

Mr. Walker acknowledged this, but said he had just heard the property was sold. He wanted to point out that the basement of this property was the most important (historical) area, because he thought the house foundation was located where the Indians fought and he thought there was a stall (animal) in the basement. Additionally, he said, this is the area where the King Phillip war took place.

Ms. Lehrer reminded Mr. Walker that the Commission has already voted on it and released the property knowing that it could be demolished.

Mr. Walker felt that the vote was meant only for the previous owner and if a new owner took over the property then they might open up a new area. He also wanted to point out that the vote was taken some time ago.

Ms. Dorey commented that she believed the house was covered with aluminum siding and that the lot has been all cleaned up.

Mr. Walker repeated that he felt because there was a new owner the Commission could revisit it.

Ms. Torrey asked if it was primarily the foundation that was old.

Mr. Walker told her that it dated back to the 1670's.

Ms. Lehrer agreed, but added they (WHS) could take the items back if they so chose.

Ms. Dorey added that the Historical Society gives tours.

Announcements

Ms. Dorey went on to say that on Thursday - May 12th, the author Jay Schmidt would be giving a talk on his new book on the subject of Fort Warren - in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The lecture will take place at Tufts Library beginning at 7PM.

Demo Delay Discussion - Cont'd

Mr. Walker asked if the Demo Delay list was on-line.

Ms. Lehrer told him that it was and could be found on the Town's website - under the Planning Department/Weymouth Historical Commission (then scroll down).

Next Lecture, June 5th

Members were reminded that member Phil Smith would be hosting a lecture on the Civil War/James Bates, etc. on Sunday June 5th at Weymouth Town Hall.

Next WHS Meeting, Wednesday June 14th

Chairman Clarke told members that the meeting on June 14th would be the last meeting until the Fall.

Adjournment

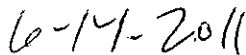
Mr. Walker moved to adjourn at 7:40 PM and to meet again on Tuesday, June 14th, 2011.

Ms. Dorey seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED



Ted Clarke, Chair



Date

Respectfully submitted,

Susan DeChristoforo
Recording Secretary