

WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION
January 14th, 2009 Meeting
Francis Kelly Room/Weymouth Town Hall

PRESENT: Ted Clarke/Chairman, Ed Walker, Mary Dorey, Jodi Purdy-Quinlan,
and Joan Rotondo

ALSO PRESENT: Jody Lehrer

Presentation of Kevitt Award, Mayor's office

File Note:

Prior to the start of the meeting members met in Mayor Susan Kay's Chambers for presentation of the 2008 Chester Kevitt Award, which was awarded to Richard Pattison, posthumously. Richard was a long time member of the Weymouth Historical Commission and a dedicated public servant who also served as a firefighter for the Town. Many friends and family were present along with Mayor Kay and representatives from the Weymouth Fire Department.

Chairman

Chairman Clarke called the January 14, 2009 meeting of the Weymouth Historical Commission to order at 7:05 PM.

Reports

Town Liaison

43 Bicknell Street Survey Status

Jody Lehrer reported that the draft report re. 43 Bicknell Street is due from the consultant the first week of February - with the final report due the end of March. These dates have been confirmed with their representative Jody.

Ms. Dorey asked if the members could have a copy of the draft report ahead of time.

Ms. Lehrer offered to check with the consultant about that and also to ask them about meeting with the Commission, so that they could make a final presentation at which time they would summarize their final report and detailing their findings.

Fogg Library

Next Ms. Lehrer reported that she spoke with Jim Clarke regarding the status of the improvements at the Fogg Library. He told her that he was hoping to have the designer/architect from McKennell, McKennell & Taylor attend the Commission's February meeting to give them a detailed update.

Ms. Lehrer then informed the members that Jim Clarke also communicated to her that she inform the Commission members that the Board of Zoning Appeals has issued a Special Permit for the Weymouth Shopping Center. When asked where it was located, she thought that was the small complex of stores located on Main Street that included Building 19).

Advisories of upcoming events

Lastly Ms. Lehrer reported that today she received a brochure from the Massachusetts Historical Commission that included the 2009 Nomination Form for the '31st Preservation Award'. She asked the members to give some consideration to submitting a Weymouth site for consideration.

(Ms. Purdy-Quinlan and Mr. Walker arrived.)

Minutes for December

Mr. Walker moved to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2008 meeting.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED (Mary Dorey abstained as she was not present)

Other**Canoe Update**

Mr. Walker reported that the plans for the installation of the dehumidifier were progressing along accordingly. He has a meeting tomorrow (1/14) at 4:15 PM with the Library's Head Custodian, Peter along with Phil Smith the contractor who will be overseeing the work. He noted that Phil Smith had served as the past President of the Weymouth Historical Society. Mr. Walker also wanted members to know that communication between he and the contractor has improved and now he has the ability to contact Mr. Smith whenever necessary.

Additionally, Mr. Walker spoke with Bob O'Connor/DPW Director about the canoe/dehumidifier and their Town's electrician is responsible for the installation of the electrical lines for the dehumidifier. The plan is for all of them to be present tomorrow to review the final plans. At that time they will finalize a timetable to complete the work, which will be going through Joanne LaMothe, Library Director. Ms. LaMothe is responsible for final approvals.

Mr. Walker further explained that plans call for installing the dehumidifier in the case located in the Canoe Room (lower library). The dehumidifier will have its own two electrical lines. He also noted that the compressor is located in the Boiler Room. He expected it to be fully operational shortly. He also noted that the controls would be located outside the case.

Unfinished Business

At this point, a copy of the information previously distributed to the other members re. the letter to State Secretary Galvin/Ma. Historical Commission (from Jim Clarke regarding repairs to the Fogg Library) was given to Mr. Walker.

Chairman Clarke explained that the contract for Fogg Library repairs was with the Massachusetts Historical Commission who was acting on behalf of the State and federal government. It was noted that the 1980 contract was still in effect.

Mr. Walker thought there was federal involvement (regarding protection of the site), because of the Fogg Library being on the National Historic Register, with Ms. Lehrer further explaining the Mass. Historical Commission actually was serving as the local representative for the federal government, for the purpose of enforcing the requirements of a recognized national historical site.

New Business

Mr. Walker asked Ms. Lehrer if she received any minutes from the Reuse Committee.

Ms. Lehrer responded that she asked that the minutes be posted when the meetings take place.

Mr. Walker commented that he heard about a person being interested in the Library's coffee shop.

Ms. Lehrer stated that no decision had been made as far as she knew; adding that Ms. LaMothe/Library Director told her it would be on the (Town's) website.

Next Ms. Purdy-Quinlan reported that last Saturday (1/10) she went to the Park with MaryEllen Schloss, Weymouth's Conservation Administrator. At that time they identified the plants indigenous to the area - deciding which ones could go and the ones that should stay. They cleaned the area with a weed whacker and cutting them back down to the ice. She said her plan is to flood the area with the goal of hopefully creating a place for the kids to ice skate. She also planned to speak to Bob O'Connor about it. Additionally she spoke about it with John Thompson, who funded the 350th Anniversary and his wife who told her she grew up in the area (Wessagusset and Sea Street). She added people also go sledding there.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan went on to speak about her visiting Abigail Adams' house as a child.

Old Business

Mr. Walker told members that the murals on the platform of the Weymouth Landing Train station have been installed.

Status of Plaques on North Weymouth Bridge

Mr. Walker then asked about the status of removal of the plaques on the bridge on Route 18 (by the MBTA railroad tracks). He wanted to know if they had been removed for safekeeping purposes, as discussed at a previous meeting.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan suggested that they send the DPW over and Mr. Walker said he would give them a call.

Next Meeting Feb. 10, 2009

Adjournment

Mr. Walker moved to adjourn at 7:35 PM.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan seconded.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Ted Clarke, Chairman, WHC

Date

Respectfully submitted,

Susan DeChristoforo
Recording Secretary