

WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL COMMISSION
March 11, 2008 Meeting
Kelly Room – Town Hall
Minutes

PRESENT: Ted Clarke/Chairman, Richard Pattison, Mary Dorey, Ed Walker, Steve Puleo and Jodi Purdy-Quinlan

NOT PRESENT: Tom Curtis

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

Chairman Clarke called the March 11, 2008 meeting of the Weymouth Historical Commission to order at 7:00PM.

MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2008

Mr. Pattison made a MOTION to ACCEPT the February 12, 2008 minutes. The MOTION was SECONDED by Mr. Puleo. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. Ms. Dorey abstained.

REPORTS

Ms. Lehrer advised the board of the Traditional Building Exhibition and Conference by Arch Painting, Inc. at the Hynes Convention Center on March 13-15, 2008.

Ms. Lehrer handed out copies of the "Notice to Proceed" on the Meetinghouse National Register Nomination by Mr. Timothy Orwig and Weymouth Landing and Front Street National Register Nomination by Deborah Cox. The consultants will attend the next WHC meeting on April 1, 2008 to give the update on their process.

Ms. Lehrer stated that she has received the member update form for the Massachusetts Historical Commission and is requesting members review and advise her of any changes to their information listed.

Ms. Lehrer reminded the board that at the last meeting in February, Mr. Pattison raised the question that Bill Connell the past State Representative had brought up the Lawrence Edward McFawn Memorial Stone. Ms. Lehrer has viewed the site and it is neat and clean, so what is the commission asking to do at this time? Ms. Pattison stated he feels the plaque should have signage behind the plaque with additional information. Chairman Clarke will send a letter to the Planning Board, Bill Connell, and the Mayor and ask Ms. Lehrer to check that her letter was sent to DPW to get this work done. Additionally, Chairman Clarke will mail another copy of his previous letter requesting that DPW do this work.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Lehrer reminded the board that the Historical Plaques they had temporarily tabled the Tiffany Riley Charles Helen III house at 96 Hollis Street because it had the concrete foundation that was questioned.

Mr. Pattison made a MOTION to ERECT A SIGN at 96 Hollis Street that reads ca. Ms. Purdy-Quinlan SECONDED the MOTION. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Ms. Lehrer will forward all applications to Chairman Clarke, he will forward to the board and they can check out the projects at their discretion. Ms. Lehrer will then advise what the board has decided. Ms. Purdy-Quinlan agreed with Ms. Lehrer and added that a disclaimer is needed on the web page stating that date of property may not be exact.

11 Lorraine Street – approved on January 8, 2008
104 Front Street – approved on September 11, 2007
96 Hollis Street – approved on September 11, 2007

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan reported that she will be submitting an application for 150 Middle Street to add to the list of plaques needed. House was built in 1818.

Ms. Lehrer advised that the Fogg Library is still being assessed for the exterior improvement needs including the roof.

Ms. Lehrer advised that Abigail Adams house had a new conservation study go out because there was not enough funding. Therefore, CPC funds were increased to \$20,000.

Ms. Lehrer advised that door are being put on the Broad Street Fire Station. The new door will replicate the original 1930 style doors. Mr. Pattison suggested that a motion needed to be passed in order to allow destruction of historical structure. Mr. Pattison made a MOTION to APPROVE the historical destruction. Mr. Walker SECONDED the MOTION. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Ms. Lehrer advised the board of a program called Preserve America which is run by the US Department of Interior. This is a program that enables communities to get federal funds. Ms. Lehrer is working on getting Weymouth designated a Preserve America community. The procedure works as follows:

- 1) Have Town Council adopt a resolution that Weymouth should be a Preserve America community; Ms. Lehrer will draft this letter.
- 2) Select one project that is representative of a historic or cultural preservation project (for example the South Weymouth train station) that has promoted or be promoting heritage tourism or otherwise fostering economic vitality and involved in a public/private partnership between government and at least one civic association.
- 3) The community must meet 5 criteria in 3 categories; each to be written about in 250 words or less (each one of the 5 criteria)
 - a. Discovering heritage through historical places
 - b. Protecting historic resources
 - c. Promoting historic assets

Ms. Lehrer discussed with Mr. James Clarke and they came up with the following ideas:

Category 1 – Discovering Heritage through Historic Places

- 1) Community supported museum interpretive facility archive or local history records collection
- 2) Opportunities for children to learn about local heritage in schools through established curriculum or other special outreach activities

Category 2 – Protecting Historic Resources

- 1) An historic preservation review ordinance and a volunteer or professional staff to implement it
- 2) Historic demolition delay

Category 3 – Promoting Historic Assets

- 1) Historic preservation awards and recognition program: Chester Kevin Awards

Chairman Clarke asked what the timetable is. Ms. Lehrer stated that it is a rolling timetable with the next submission in June. Ms. Lehrer stated that this opens the doors for other funds. Ms. Purdy-Quinlan made a MOTION to APPROVE Ms. Lehrer applying for the funds. Mr. Walker SECONDED the MOTION. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan thanked Ms. Lehrer for her hard work on behalf of the WHC.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – 43 BICKNELL ROAD

Chairman Clarke asked all members to come to the next Town Council and help support Mr. Curtis asking to have the CPC project proposal approved. Not a lot of funds have been spent in the historic category from the CPC and Chairman Clarke will be asking the council for their support of this project. Chairman Clarke stated that Councilor Matthews is against this project. Ms. Purdy-Quinlan stated that she will be contacting Councilor DiFazio and asking for his support of this project. Ms. Purdy-Quinlan asked Ms. Lehrer to find out who the three members were that voted against the project. The mayor approved the project. Mr. Puleo stated that when you look at what makes Weymouth historic, this project is a big part of it. Chairman Clarke stated that it will be a major setback if this doesn't go through. Members questioned if all council members will have copies of the application and the supporting documentation regarding this project. Ms. Lehrer will make sure that each Town Council member has a packet of information regarding the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Department Video

Mr. Pattison stated that in 1992 when he was the Chairman of the WHC he applied for CDBG funds. The grant included making a video of the Fire Department History. Many times Mr. Pattison attempted to get this project done. The rough draft came out so bad that Mr. Pattison would not allow the video to go any further. This video finishes a project started many years ago. Mr. Pattison will attempt to get copies of the video for all members. Mr. Pattison would like to see the video reproduced and the WHC or WHS to get the proceeds. Mr. Pattison would like to ask the board to vote on what to do with the video. Discussion ensued regarding selling the video, where proceeds will go, who owns the video WETC or

WHC? Chairman Clarke stated that he will draft a letter to Mary Heinrichs of WETC asking her to please reproduce the video and WHC will sell them. Mr. Pattison stated that he is sure that many fire fighters will want to purchase the video.

DUGOUT CANOE

Mr. Walker stated that he recently went before the CPC and requested funds for a project to help preserve the dugout canoe that is at the Tufts Library. As yet Mr. Walker has not received any funds, he is awaiting an estimate of the work to be done from Phil Smith, past President of the WHS. Mr. Smith works in HVAC and is going to draw up a proposal for the work to be done. Ms. Lehrer stated that Mr. James Clarke has asked her to help Mr. Walker so that the proposal will fly through the CPC.

CLAPP BUILDING

Mr. Pattison stated he feels that the board should take a stand on the Clapp Building. Chairman Clarke stated that he has already done that. Mr. Walker stated that the WHC should ask for any and all historic artifacts that are found in the building. Mr. Pattison stated that he feels the WHC should have something on file stating that the WHC opposes the construction changes to the building.

HISTORIC TOUR OF WEYMOUTH

Ms. Purdy-Quinlan stated that Chairman Clarke asked her to host an historic tour of Weymouth and the Queen Mother of the Red Hat Society will be making a donation of \$65 for a shrub or tree for the Wessagusset Memorial Garden.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pattison MOVED to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:15PM. Mr. Puleo SECONDED the MOTION. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Next meeting June 12, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.

Christine Callbeck
Recording Secretary

Ted Clarke, Chairman , WHC

Date