

Northborough Historic District Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 21, 2024. called to order 7:04 PM: Remote meeting.

Members present: Bob Licht, Millie Milton, Leslie Harrison, Amanda Derosier Millette, Brian Smith, Brian Swanson,

Absent: Tom Reardon; Alternates: Lorna Helms, Bruce Chute.

Bob read script including: "Pursuant to chapter 2 of the acts of 2023, an act relative to extending certain COVID 19 measures, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation..."

Prior meeting minutes: January 17, 2024 meeting minutes approved as presented by roll call by all. (Motion by Leslie, seconded by Brian Smith). Brian Swanson will send PDF to Town clerk's office.

Old Business:

CPA project status review:

Bob has completed our committee annual report and submitted it as required with a copy to Tim McInerney.

Library historical marker was delivered with slight damage and was returned for repair.

Bob brought the pitting and corrosion (?) of the Assabetville sign to the attention of Crown Trophy. They said they would see if it can be repaired.

We have heard from Lisa Mausolf regarding application for National Register status for Howard Street Cemetery. She has finally received comments back from MHC and will get back to us with comments and questions in a while.

The warped cemetery sign behind First Parish Church was brought to the attention of Andy Clark who said they would repair or replace.

Aqueduct replacement marker in process pending town meeting approval.

Chauncy Hall markers are still moving but slowly.

Small projects: waiting to hear from Tom about D.B.Wesson archives investigation.

Committee representative updates:

CPC: Nothing new with historic projects.

MPIC: Had meeting tomorrow with BOS. Hope that town meeting will support moving ahead with downtown focused improvements.

Northborough Revolution 250 (Rev250): Bob organized the first meeting Jan 24. The Rev250 committee consists of members of the NHDC (Bob and Brian Smith), Cultural Council, Community Affairs Cable Access TV, NB Historical Society along with NPS. Future plans are to involve schools and scouts to develop events and awareness to commemorate the 250th anniversary of local revolutionary events from 1774 to 1776. Bob met with D. Wackell to review the plan to organize as a private volunteer committee and issues related to fundraising and expenses.

New Business

A motion was made by Leslie, seconded by Brian Smith to renew our membership in Preservation Mass. For \$50. This raised the question of what needs we might have for remaining budget balance such as historic house markers. (Ask Norm Corbin if we tried this) To put on agenda for next time.

Bob will plan to attend next Tuesday's Town Hall feasibility study meeting and will add to agenda.

Aqueduct trail project is moving slowly due to MWRA permission requirements.

Legacy Tree Program designates significance by 1) large size, 2) historical significance or 3) botanical significance. Be on the lookout for historical candidates.

An NPS webinar on use of modern materials in historic restoration was attended by Brian Swanson earlier this month and Bob is planning to go tomorrow and there will be one more session added in April.

Reviewing chapter 7 of our Historic Preservation plan to come up with a few proposals we can put into action, we noted we are doing this in several of our projects such as Proctor Flyers, Revolution 250 work, historical signs etc. Millie

suggested looking into contributions of other races/ethnicities in town's history and possibly involving diversity and equity inclusion committee.

Next meeting likely March 20, probably by Zoom.

Motion to Adjourn made by Leslie, seconded by Brian Smith and approved unanimously at approximately 7:55 PM. Minutes prepared by Brian Swanson.