

Northborough Historic District Commission Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2023 called to order 7:03 PM: In person meeting Conf Room C.

Members present: Bob Licht-chair, Leslie Harrison-Vice Chair, Brian Smith, Brian Swanson, Millie Milton, Amanda Derosier Millette.

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

Prior meeting minutes: October 18, 2023 meeting minutes: Unanimously approved as presented. (Motion by Leslie, seconded by Brian Swanson). Brian Swanson will send PDF to Town clerk's office.

Old Business:

CPA project status review:

Brigham Street Burial Ground Upgrade: Looks good with grass growing. Stones or posts marking the occupied portion to be added. Some trees will be planted in spring after funds remaining are determined. It may be possible to request ARPA funds for additional trees.

Library historical marker: - There seems to be some confusion about which revision of sign proposal is being presented. Bob to follow up with Jenn Bruneau.

National Register Listing of Howard St. Cemetery: In process, nothing new to report.

It was noticed that the Howard Street Cemetery sign behind First Parish is warping. Brought to attention of Andy Clark (Expose Signs).

It was noticed that the bronze sign near Stone's Cycle Shop which includes comb manufacturing history is showing some pitting on photo and edge. Bob will take a look at these.

Aqueduct marker application for CPA funding was completed by Bob (replacement for the one that went missing). John Campbell may be questioning whether signage is eligible for this funding based on "allowable spending purposes" chart.

Regarding the large historical information signs to be placed on the old Westborough State Hospital site: There is a delay due to Nipmuck Indian input.

Committee representative updates:

CPC - applications should be in by now. Previous meeting was a presentation by community Preservation Coalition rep. Next meeting December 7, should start reviews.

MPIC – meeting tomorrow. A comprehensive Rough draft was received. A focus now should include how our listed historic properties fit into the downtown plan since half of them are in this area and are important to the character. Some ARPA funding for facades may be available, Laura in planning is working on a grant application.

Other:

Northborough Revolution 250: Bob has been in touch with Community Affairs Committee and Cultural Coalition to coordinate with them. Bob shared a list of relevant events that could be highlights based on Kent's History.

Bob requested \$1000 for next year's budget, up from \$500 due to revolution 250.

Homework: Continue Review of Chapter 7 of Historic Preservation Plan

Our Next meeting: tentatively January 17 via zoom. (skipping December meeting.)

Motion to Adjourn made by Leslie, seconded by Brian Smith and approved unanimously at approximately 7:50 PM.

Minutes prepared by Brian Swanson