

# **NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes for Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, February 17, 2021

## **Meeting held via Video Conference**

Present: Mike Duchesneau, Brian Smith, Brian Swanson, Norm Corbin, Bruce Chute, Bob Licht, Leslie Harrison, Millie Milton

Chair called the monthly meeting to order at 7:01

- **Prior Meeting Minutes**

- Millie Milton moved to accept the minutes of January 21, 2021, seconded by Brian Smith, all in favor

- **Old Business**

- Prior CPA requests
  - Bringham Street Burial Ground - Interpretive Sign
    - Scott Charpentier will meet with Cemetery Commission.
    - Norm Corbin will incorporate any feedback and feed back to Expose.
  - Howard Street Burial Ground – Interpretive Sign
    - Norm Corbin sent out to Expose for quote, nothing back yet.
  - Howard Street Cemetery - National Register
    - Norm Corbin spoke to contractor, we should hear back in April/May.
- Historic Preservation Plan
  - It will be driven by master plan, and Norm Corbin will add specifics on what the Commission has stated it wants to accomplish.
- Archeological Sites in Northborough
  - Mike Duchesneau contacted 3 companies referred to by Mass Hist Comm. All three have advised that the town proceed with a sitewide recon survey. They are waiting to hear back as to how the Commission would like to proceed. Mike will forward the information to the Commission members.
  - Their report/deliverable would be townwide archaeological information with GIS layers for planning purposes. The cost would be \$25K-\$35K, but could be paid 50% by state.
  - The state archaeologist strongly favors this type of survey.
  - A survey may need to go hand in hand with town zoning bylaw. Millie Milton will provide document that triggered review for Bartlett St development.
  - Bob Licht suggested creating markers for any sites that are not sensitive.
- Old Grange Hall, 10 School Street
  - No update.
- Planned Demolitions on old State Hospital grounds
  - Norm Corbin recently received the formal report from DCAMM regarding which buildings are coming down. All 15 properties on Northborough side, including 4 that are on the National Historic Register, are slated for demolition.

- A Project Notification Form was submitted to the state for the demolition. The buildings that are on National Reg have no protection from demolition, nor does the town have jurisdiction over them because they are located on state land.
  - Norm Corbin will draft a letter asking the state to determine if any archaeological sites are located within that area and will look into any subcommittee options that are available to the Commission to finalize letter before the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- NHDC representation on other committees
  - White Cliffs Committee
    - No update.
  - Community Preservation Committee
    - No update.
  - Master Plan Implementation Committee
    - No update.
- **New Business**
  - Gutters on Unitarian Parish Hall
    - Representatives will be advised to come to NHDC for approvals.
  - Other – Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest training reminder
- **Mail** – Received notice that nomination documents for 35 Whitney St. have been received by the state.
- **Next Meeting:** March 17, 2021
- **Adjournment**
  - Brian Swanson moved to adjourn, seconded by Brian Smith, all in favor

CC: Commission Members, Julianne Hirsh, Town Clerk, Diane Wackell

Respectfully submitted  
Bruce Chute