

NORTHBOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes for Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Meeting held via Video Conference

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

Guest: Tom Reardon

Chair called the monthly meeting to order at 7:04

- **Prior Meeting Minutes**
 - Will be reviewed at the next meeting
- **Old Business**
 - CPA Projects
 - Brigham Street Burial Ground – Interpretive sign
 - The sign has been built and installed
 - An article will be forthcoming in the Community Advocate
 - Howard Street Burial Ground – Interpretive sign
 - Norm Corbin provided photo of the current one and some notes regarding some of the stones.
 - NHDC agreed to the wording and Norm Corbin will submit to have it made.
 - Planned Demolitions on old State Hospital Grounds
 - Norm Corbin and Bob Licht got a tour inside the Chauncy Hall building
 - There's nothing salvageable to use for the new State maintenance facility
 - Norm sent a letter to Brona Simon of the Mass Historical Comm to follow up on possibility of archaeological study of the area
 - Norm received a map showing current MA state depts responsible for the 307 acres within Northborough. 3-4 different depts own parts of the land. There may be land available for Northborough, but this is still an open question.
 - Mitigation will be in the form of interpretive signage located at a parking lot or trailhead nearby
 - We will request stones with bronze plaques, similar to the Post Road plaque located downtown.
 - Historic Preservation Plan
 - Norm provided CPA, Historical Society and current historical preservation protections and recognitions sections for review
 - Tom Reardon suggested including the architectural aspects of the town and will provide a write-up. He also suggested adding an intro with geological features that helped shape the town
 - Mike suggested including examples of architecture, settings, etc., the progression of architecture, and where to find those examples
- **New Business**
 - Letters of Appreciation
 - Brian Swanson wrote four letters of appreciation: 110 Howard, 130 South, 334 Church, 239 Crawford

- Other
 - Potential other alternate members
- History of Northborough by Josiah Kent
 - Millie Milton made motion to buy 10 copies for members of the NHDC, seconded by Brian Smith, all in favor
- Tree removal at burial grounds –
 - Mike Duchesneau suggested doing something about the large trees in Howard St cemetery
 - Norm noticed several trees at Brigham St. cemetery were dead, brought it to DPW attention.
-
- **Mail**
 - No mail
- **Next Meeting:** June 16, 2021
- **Adjournment**
 - Mike Duchesneau moved to adjourn, Millie Milton seconded, all in favor

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

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Chute