



TOWN OF WHATELY

Whately, Massachusetts

Historical Commission
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Written correspondence should be addressed to:
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MINUTES

WHATELY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 16, 2022

Committee members present: Donna Wiley (chair), Susan Baron, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle, Allison Bell

Meeting was conducted via Zoom and was recorded.

- Meeting called to order at 5:02 p.m.
- Minutes of meeting of March 21, 2022 were approved.

Members discussed the proposal to support restoration of Congregational Church windows. It was noted that there has not yet been an historic preservation grant made to a private entity for rehabilitation to a building or a structure. Donna proposed that if we support work on a structure that is privately held the Commission should request a preservation restriction. Jenn Doherty of the Massachusetts Historical Commission had suggested a restriction similar to the one on the Town Hall, which applies to both the interior and exterior, but in this case, an exterior-only restriction would seem appropriate. Since public money would be used for a private entity, how can we ensure that the work is not turned over or undone quickly? What set of filters can we apply to applications that would narrow the range of applicants? In order to be eligible for historic preservation CPA funding, the structure or landscape must either be on the state register or determined to be historically significant by the local Historical Commission.

- Donna proposed that we agree to discuss at next meeting. Members will review protocols from other towns. Judy suggested that the Community Preservation Coalition might be helpful and Donna offered to talk with Stuart Saginor from CPC. Judy reported that the church has a bid for \$34,550 plus contingency = \$38,000 total. Details that will support the Church's proposal given to the committee. Members agreed to continue discussion in June.
- Hidden History—Susan wanted to be sure the 250th Committee was supporting the project as needed. There was discussion about an announcement in special issue of the Scoop, possibly partnered with the Whately Historical Society. Susan will propose to the 250th Committee a one-page back-to-back insert, for Hidden History and the *Becoming Whately* exhibit, to be funded by the 250th.
- Next meeting is scheduled for June 27, 2022, 5 p.m.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Allison Bell