



**TOWN OF WHATELY**  
Whately, Massachusetts

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Historical Commission

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**Minutes of the December 19, 2022 Zoom Meeting, 5 pm**

Meeting participants: Donna Wiley, chair, Susan Baron, Allison Bell, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle.

Guests: Jim Ross and Bob Smith of the S. White Dickinson Library Board of Trustees.

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm.

The minutes of the November 21, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

Agenda item – Library application for CPA funding.

Questions from the Historical Commission were requested. The main issues raised concerned the stated purpose of the masonry work, The proposal should be rewritten to clarify that its purpose meets the criteria established for historic preservation. In other words, the masonry work should promote the restoration or renovation of an historic property. Secondly, the work must meet the standards established by the Secretary of the Interior for Historic Preservation. That document will be sent again to Jim Ross and Bob Smith to ensure that it is referenced.

Bob and Jim discussed the proposed project, with some further details about the work proposed than was evident in the application.. Judy Markland suggested that they consult with George Dole of Jones Whitsett to ensure that the method proposed by the mason who has submitted an estimate is consistent with the Secretary's Standards.

Commission members will send any additional questions about the project to Donna Wiley by Thursday, December 22, who will forward those to Bob and Jim for their revisions of the proposal before the next Community Preservation Committee meeting.

Two additional issues were discussed. One concerned the amount of money requested by the Historical Commission for its annual budget. The amount has not changed in anyone's memory. While the amount is small (only \$200), the consensus was that no change was required in the amount. Future projects with specific needs may require additional funding. These may be requested of the town or other agencies as the need arises.

The other issue concerned the feasibility of proposing a new National Register District. Judy noted that the process for getting a National Register District approved starts with a good area inventory form, A MACRIS area form has been completed for Canterbury, but none exists for North Street as yet. . A more detailed discussion will be scheduled for the next Historical Commission meeting.

The next Historical Commission meeting will be on January 16, 2023 at 5 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan McArdle