

## **Whately Historical Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm.

Members present: Donna Wiley (chair), Susan Baron, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle.

1. Minutes of the January meeting were approved unanimously
2. Project Updates:
  - a. Whately Town Hall progress report. Some of the windows have been returned and reinstalled in the upstairs section. The HVAC is being installed. The Friends of Town Hall have reached their fund raising goal of \$150,000 for town hall renovations.
  - b. Veteran's Memorial Update. A letter was received from MHC approving the intention to submit an application. The veteran's group intends to use town funds to hire a landscape designer to help make plans for the new monument. The Historical Commission asked to be kept informed of plans as they develop and make comments as needed. The CPA application has been withdrawn.
  - c. 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting. Susan Baron gave a very positive report on the most recent meeting and developing plans for the town's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 2018. Many of the key activities have chairs now. There will be a sign-up table at the next major Town Meeting to help with event planning. There is an official town committee which will request funding from the town each year to support the project, supplemented by additional private fundraising. For the 2018-2019 budget \$20,000 is being requested.
3. The possible scenic byways bylaw was discussed in more detail. It was originally proposed because the Planning Board thought it would help protect viewsapes when site plan review is required. However, discussions with town agencies and additional research suggest that there may be better ways to denote scenic landscapes. Upon further consideration, we voted unanimously not to recommend that River Road, Webber Road, Strippe Road and Poplar Hill Road be designated as additional scenic byways. Judy will continue to examine existing planning maps for the town, especially those GIS maps that delineate a Scenic Landscape area which may be sufficient for Planning Board purposes.  
These maps are located here: [http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/map\\_ol/oliver.php](http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/map_ol/oliver.php).
4. We discussed additions to and the correction of errors in the MACRIS listings of historic properties and areas in the town. Susan, with help from Judy and Donna, has added postal and email addresses to the list of historic properties. This list will be made into a shareable Google document for additional corrections and additions. The idea of distributing current listings to individual property owners or sending them to new purchasers of properties in town was discussed.
5. The next meeting of the Historical Commission was scheduled for either Monday, March 21 or Wednesday, March 21 at 5 pm depending on people's schedules.
6. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan McArdle