



TOWN OF WHATELY Whately, Massachusetts

Historical Commission
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Minutes of the July 18, 2022 Zoom Meeting, 5 pm

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm.

The minutes of the June 27, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

Donna reported that our approval of CPA funding for the church window project, with a recommendation that the Town impose the condition of right-of-first-refusal, was communicated to the Community Preservation Committee; Alan Sanderson will ask town counsel to check whether the project is eligible for CPA funding under state law.

Requirements for CPA applications for historic preservation rehabilitation of privately owned property

The document provided by Judy Markland, entitled "Criteria for CPA Historic Preservation Funding for privately owned property," was discussed. The wording of this document was generally accepted but several small changes were made in order to widen the range of possible actions by the Historical Commission and retain its freedom to respond to unanticipated conditions. The Commission members VOTED unanimously to accept the version of the document below:

Criteria for CPA historic preservation funding for privately-owned property

1. The entity being preserved shall be of historic significance as determined by the Historical Commission. This may be because
 - the entity played an important role in Whately's history
 - the entity is an excellent example of an architectural style
 - the landscape is an important one in Whately and/or illustrates an important aspect of Whately's history
 - the object represents an important part of Whately's history or played a direct role in Whately's history.
2. The preservation funding will result in a demonstrable public good.
3. The applicant is demonstrably committed to preserving what is being funded.

Conditions for CPA grants for historic preservation rehabilitation of privately owned property

Another discussion ensued of the conditions the Historical Commission might request if recommending historic preservation funding for a privately owned property. Once again, the discussion focused on maintaining the Commission's options and simplifying the wording of the document.

The Commission VOTED unanimously to accept the wording proposed by Judy Markland, as follows:

The Historical Commission may request that conditions be applied to CPA-funded historic preservation projects proposed for privately owned entities. These may include the following:

- Right of first refusal by the town if the property is offered for sale
- A preservation restriction (with specific conditions to be defined on a case by case basis) and/or
- A refund of the CPA funding.

The next meeting will be a virtual one on September 19 at 5pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan McArdle