

**Whately Historical Commission**  
**September 19, 2022 Minutes**  
**Zoom Meeting**

Present: Donna Wiley (chair), Susan Baron, Allison Bell, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle

1. Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm.
2. Minutes of the July 18, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Center School
  - a. Judy emailed Jen Doherty at MHC to ask if long-term lessees are eligible for tax credits for restoration work on historic properties - up to 20% each state and federal credit for work done. Jen responded that lessees have been eligible in the past, but the lease must be very long-term, perhaps as much as 50 years. Jen also said that it is important to work with MHC upfront to make sure work is eligible. Judy communicated that to Brian Domina.
  - b. It was noted that any work must follow the Secretary of the Interior's standards to be eligible for the tax credits, CPA funding, and other preservation grants. Judy has raised with Brian the question of whether lessees are eligible for CPA money. If not, the Town is eligible.
  - c. Someone from the Historical Commission should sit in on Selectboard discussions regarding the Center School. Donna or Judy will cover this.
4. The CPC discussion and public hearing regarding the Church's application for CPA funding for historic preservation work was postponed due to technology issues during the CPC meeting. Therefore, this topic was postponed to a future Historical Commission meeting.
5. Whately Diner
  - a. Judy learned from the Town Clerk that Nouria Energy owns the property, and was provided with the name of a contact person.
  - b. Judy compiled documentation about the National Register of Historic Places, which Amy Schrader had forwarded to Nouria.
  - c. Judy drafted an information letter to the Nouria contact, providing a rationale for allowing the Diner to be submitted for the National Register, which the Historical Commission approved with minor edits.
  - d. Judy suggested that we ask Nouria to endorse submitting the Diner to the National Register. In the meantime, she will update the MACRIS listing.
6. Hidden History Project
  - a. Donna and Allison have determined that slot machines were briefly in use at the Whately Inn and Maplewood Hotel in the first decade of the 20th century. This will be added to the Hidden History map.
7. Next meeting will be October 17 at 5pm.
8. Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.