

**Whately Historical Commission
March 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Present (via Zoom): Donna Wiley (Chair), Susan Baron, Allison Bell, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle

- Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm.
- Minutes of February 19, 2024 meeting approved unanimously.
- Center School
 - Donna informed members that the Select Board has requested that a decision regarding submitted proposals is delayed, allowing the Visioning Committee two weeks to explore other options.
 - Donna would like the Historical Commission to write to the Selectboard that, if the Town retains ownership of the building, the Town be held to the same historical preservation standards as were laid out in the RFP. This passed unanimously. Donna will draft a letter to be sent before the next Selectboard meeting.
- Historical Commission Membership
 - In light of Alan's pending resignation, Commission members discussed potential recruits, with a focus on residents of East and West Whately.
 - Susan will reach out to Ashlee Haslett to see if she is interested in joining.
- Springfield student project
 - Donna began the Google Form provided by the student and was unable to complete it because the appropriate response to a question was not an option.
 - Susan suggested we send the student the information that was compiled previously regarding the oldest buildings in Whately and the list of buildings demolished between 1980 and 2013. We can also send him the link to the appropriate webpage of the Hidden History project regarding older buildings. For a success story, Donna will provide the Town Hall renovation presentation. Donna will send all this information to the student.
- Other business
 - Donna raised that painting Town Hall has been on the capital project list for several years. In 2021 Keith Bardwell and Neal Abraham had Town Hall repainting added to the list, with an \$80,000 estimate. It is now scheduled for 2026. Donna proposed that the Historical Commission write a supporting letter for this project when capital project submissions are requested in the fall of 2024.
- Next meeting
 - The next meeting is scheduled for April 15 at 5pm via Zoom.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:36 pm.