

TOWN OF WHATELY Whately, Massachusetts

Historical Commission historicalcommission@whately.org

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Minutes of the June 7, 2021 Zoom Meeting¹, 5 pm

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

The meeting was opened at 5:05 pm.

The minutes of the May 3 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

<u>Water Department pump house:</u> Donna reported that a strip of land about 10' wide had been given to the cemetery many years ago with the stipulation that the town maintain the fence separating it from the property to the north. The fence will be replaced and the road into the pump house will not be paved. Judy noted that the Planning Board has approved the site plan. Donna will write to Roger Lipton expressing the Historical Commission's approval of the revised plan.

<u>Proposed marijuana manufacturer at 3 River Road:</u> The site plan for the proposed project was discussed. As there is no change to the building footprint and minimal digging in the plan, the group voted to send the Planning Board and ZBA its standard letter expressing approval and stipulating that digging should be halted if any archeological artifacts are unearthed.

<u>Mustang marijuana cultivation Christian Lane:</u> Judy reported that the PB has approved the revised site plan and asked that the tobacco barns be photographed before they are removed. Mustang has agreed. Donna commented that tobacco barns are named as Whately historic landscape and the HC should note this on any site plan review that involves one.

<u>Hidden history project</u>: Alan, Allison and Donna met with Julia Jacobson, a web designer, to get insight in the type of web platform the HC should adopt for the project. The meeting was productive and the group has identified three possible platforms. They continue to discuss the process and what layers to incorporate and believe another meeting with Jacobson would be productive.

<u>Private building restoration</u>: Nick Wojcik, who bought Bob Duda's property at 23 Conway Road, contacted Donna about possible sources of financial help for restoring his mill and another outbuilding. The group discussed the fact that unfortunately state and federal historic tax credits

¹ <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89087560410?pwd=eUp6ZDR0cGNiQzEzdHU1UjZOTUE3QT09</u>

only apply to income-producing properties and the possibility of using CPA funds for this and other homeowner projects.

Tim Nourse has restored an 1840's German-style barn restored on one of his Whately properties.

The next meeting will be on July 19 at 5pm either in person (location TBD) or via Zoom depending on the then prevailing state open meeting laws.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Markland