

Whately Historical Commission  
January 9, 2018 Meeting Minutes

In attendance – Susan Baron, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle, Darcy Tozier, Donna Wiley

- The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.
- Minutes of November 28, 2017 unanimously approved.
- Town Hall Construction Update
  - There was no further appeal of the special permit application. Construction of the rear addition is proceeding.
  - Friends of Town Hall is within \$1,000 of its \$150,000 fundraising goal for the project.
  - Additional funding:
    - The ADA grant awards will be announced January 15.
    - Donna reported that Brian Domina is planning to call Paul Holtz of the Mass Historical Commission to learn whether additional funds became available for distribution to grantees in December, as Holtz had suggested.
    - Judy reported that at the latest site meeting paint and door hardware were selected.
  - The bid to paint the unpainted first-floor hallway and front stairwell wainscoting, which was not included in Jones Whitsett's specifications for the general contractor, came in at \$6,000. Donna will send the bid to Darcy to review. The costs for other changes to the original plans to date have roughly balanced, with the mitigation for asbestos in the wallpaper glue offset by other savings.
- CPC Applications
  - An application for work on the Veterans Memorial will be discussed once submitted.
- 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
  - The Anniversary Committee agreed to request \$20,000 to be included in the 2018-2019 Town budget, with similar requests expected for the next two years.
  - There are plans to recruit townspeople for committees planning events at Town Meeting.
  - The survey (paper and link for online) regarding interest in proposed activities will be distributed at Town Meeting and via The Scoop.
- Scenic Roads Bylaw
  - Donna distributed a draft of an expanded version of the Town's existing Scenic Roads bylaw, which was approved in 1973 and amended in 2010. She also reported that Lynn Sibley had advised that the process leading up to Town Meeting should include reviews by the Planning Board, the head of the Highway Department, and the Conservation Commission.
  - After some discussion, the Commission decided not to propose a revision of the bylaw at this time.
  - As voted in October 2017, the Commission will propose that four additional roads be designated as Scenic Roads: River Road, Webber Road, Strippe Road, and Poplar Hill Road.
  - The Commission agreed that a fact sheet about the significance of the Scenic Roads bylaw should be developed to distribute to Town residents.

- Donna will meet with Keith Bardwell to discuss the proposed additions to streets covered by the Scenic Roads bylaw.
- Capital Planning Budget
  - Donna will meet with Keith Bardwell to discuss the Commission's submission to the Capital Planning Committee of the sidewalk renovations and cross walks in Town Center that were recommended by the Conway School and endorsed by the ad hoc committee for that project.
- 2017 Town Annual Report
  - The Commission approved the draft of the submission to the 2017 Town Annual Report as drafted by Donna and amended during discussion.
- MACRIS Inventory
  - Agreed to review inventory sheet for the Library drafted by Judy at our next meeting.
  - Alan will investigate whether there is an architectural historian in town who can provide professional counsel, presumably *pro bono*, on MACRIS entries that are developed and/or revised by amateurs
  - At next meeting we will review the list of properties currently included on MACRIS and discuss how to proceed.
- Next meeting – February 21, 2018 5pm.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.