

Whately Historical Commission
10/12/16
Minutes

Present: Susan Barn, Judy Markland, Alan McArdle, Darcy Tozier, Donna Wiley

1. Called to order at 5pm
2. Minutes from 09/19/16 meeting approved.
3. Town Anniversary - Judy raised that the town's 250 anniversary is in 2021 and recommended the Historical Commission send a letter to the Select Board suggesting a committee be formed to plan events. Judy to draft a letter for Alan's signature. Draft to be circulated among Commission members for approval
4. Grant Applications – Donna informed the group that the Mass Cultural Facilities Fund has not yet released information or announced the deadline for applications. It is thought that elements of the Town Hall project appropriate for applying for funding from this source include: lift, HVAC, sound/acoustic panels, energy-related items, fire suppression, security for the museum. Donna plans to attend the application workshop and will inquire as to whether the Commission and the Historical Society can prepare a joint proposal.
5. Fire Suppression for Town Hall – The question was raised as to whether J-W will provide a recommendation and costs for fire suppression in their plans for Town Hall. This information is desired in order to include fire suppression costs in appropriate grant applications. Judy to send an email to Fred Orloski and Alan McArdle asking them to request that J-W include these costs in their project cost estimates.
6. Project Information Session – A town-wide information session is scheduled for November 15 at which projects including the Town Hall renovation will be presented. J-W will present the building plans. At the next Municipal Building Committee meeting Alan will ask if it is desired for the Historical Commission present background information, including needs assessment and proposed building usage.
7. Dissemination of Town Hall Project Costs - Alan will request that the Municipal Building Committee adds an agenda item for the 10/26 meeting to discuss when it is deemed appropriate to present the plans and costs for the Town Hall renovation project to the Finance and Community Preservation Committees.
8. Nolumbeka Project - The Commission decided not to respond to the inquiry from the Nolumbeka Project. Susan will investigate whether the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund requires any archeological work.
9. Proposed Town Hall Windows – Judy, seconded by Susan and Darcy, thanked Alan and Donna for going on the tour in Amherst to see the windows installed by WindowMaster to assess their appropriateness for the Town Hall project. Alan will check with the Massachusetts Historical Commission about whether the proposed window approach - replacing the panes within the existing frames – fits with historic guidelines.
10. Community Needs Survey - Susan will draft an updated Community Needs Survey for committee review. Organizations to be added to potential respondents to include: Signature Sounds, CISA, the Veterans. A question regarding number of people anticipated at events is to be added to the

survey. The survey will be distributed at the informational table to be set up for Election Day and/or the November 15 Town Information Session.

11. Energy Commission – it was agreed to present the Town Hall cost figures to the Energy Commission once they are available. Alan to email Paul Newlin or Jonathan Edwards to request being added to the agenda at their meeting following the receipt of project costs.
12. Museum Funding Sources – A contact at J-W responded to Judy's request for suggestions for museum funding sources. Several links were provided. Based on this email, the Historical Commission will encourage the Historical Society to join the American Alliance of Museums to have access to their resources.
13. The next meeting of the Historical Commission will be November 7 at 5pm at Town Offices.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Baron