

SWAMPSCOTT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

June 6, 2017

7:00 PM

86 Burrill Street, Swampscott, MA

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT:</u>	Justina Oliver, Bill Joyce, Bill Travascio, Richard Smith, Shannon Phelan, Sylvia Belkin, Kim Barry, Paula Pearce
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT:</u>	Jean Reardon
<u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u>	None
<u>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:</u>	7:04 pm
<u>MINUTES:</u>	Minutes for the Historical Commission meeting on May 12, 2017 were unanimously approved after a motion by Sylvia, as seconded by Justina.
<u>TREASURER'S REPORT:</u>	The Commission's account now holds a balance of \$732. An invoice for historical research for the preservation awards in the amount of approximately \$600 is forthcoming.
<u>REAPPOINTMENTS:</u>	The Commission unanimously voted to appoint Bill Travascio as Treasurer, beginning July 1, 2017. The Commission unanimously voted to continue Richard Smith's appointment, since his term expires soon.
<u>COMMITTEE UPDATES:</u>	The Open Space Committee did not hold a recent meeting in May. The Historic District Commission has been busy with enforcement issues and trying to get the building department to take action.
<u>TRAILS AND SAILS EVENT:</u>	The Commission decided to hold the annual Trails and Sails event on September 16, 2017. Tours will be given of the Town Hall, and Richard will conduct a walking tour of the Olmsted District. Kim volunteered to contact the Historical Society and Andrews Chapel to see if they are having events for Trails and Sails.
<u>PRESERVATION AWARDS:</u>	Jackie Blombach is in the process of doing historical research for the nominated buildings at 34/36 Sheridan Road, 1050 Humphrey Street, and 1080 Humphrey Street.

	<p>It is anticipated that the reports will be ready at the end of June, and the awards can be presented at the end of July or in August. The condo association at the First United Church on Burrill Street indicated to Justina that they would like to have a plaque.</p>
<u>69 ROCKLAND STREET:</u>	<p>The Commission discussed the building at 69 Rockland Street. A public hearing date will need to be scheduled. Commission members discussed their understanding of the owners' needs (e.g., single-level living) and elements that the owners would like to preserve (e.g., peaks/gables, interior decorative elements). Members reiterated that our goal should be supporting and educating them about preservation options in a positive manner. Several members indicated that it would be beneficial to have a Memorandum of Understanding to document that we would like them to seek out advice on how to rehabilitate the existing structure, and obtain the appropriate cost estimates, prior to deciding to demolish the structure. Overall the Commission agreed that it was important to marry the owners' needs with the characteristics of the neighborhood.</p>
<u>TRAIN STATION:</u>	<p>The Commission discussed the current status of the train station. Bill J. and Bill T. provided a recap of research/inquiries made to date. The MBTA does not want to sell the building, and the town is currently a tenant-at-will. Members indicated that we should make sure that no more damage occurs to the structure, and we should contact town representatives to ask what their objective is with the building and whether they would consider leasing it out. It was decided that a meeting should be scheduled with the Town Administrator, and we should write a formal letter asking what happened to the \$50,000 previously appropriated for the Train Station and what we can do to move things forward. Kim volunteered to look up a grant program for properties "in peril."</p>
<u>FISH HOUSE:</u>	<p>Justina reported that we should hear this month about whether a grant was awarded for work on the Fish House. Bill T. indicated that we could ask state representatives to endorse an amendment for funding.</p>
<u>WHITE COURT:</u>	<p>The White Court Task Force is putting together a business plan and draft of a tier of programs that could be offered at the facility. A sub-team is meeting with the Town Administrator to discuss options for funding. Members</p>

	discussed sending a letter to the owner of Blytheswood to indicate that the property is eligible for the National Register. The Commission agreed to discuss how to get the National Register application done at the next meeting.
<u>MBTA – NEW ANTENNAE:</u>	Justina reported that Pete Kane has proposed that the antennae be moved closer to commercial businesses (and away from the Train Station). Bill T. volunteered to ask the secretary of the DOT about the antennae.
<u>INVENTORY AND OUTREACH:</u>	The Commission discussed doing a presentation on town history for the 3 rd grade class at Stanley School.
<u>NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:</u>	Public hearing for 69 Rockland Street (to be determined).
<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>	9:16 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Phelan, Secretary