

# **SWAMPSCOTT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

January 3, 2017

7:00 PM

22 Monument Avenue, Swampscott, MA

<b><u>MEMBERS PRESENT:</u></b>	Justina Oliver, Kim Barry, Paula Pearce, Richard Smith, Sylvia Belkin, Shannon Phelan, Jean Reardon
<b><u>MEMBERS ABSENT:</u></b>	Bill Joyce, Bill Travascio
<b><u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u></b>	Mary Ellen Fletcher, Member of the Finance Committee and the Harbor and Waterfront Advisory Committee
<b><u>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:</u></b>	7:10 PM
<b><u>MINUTES:</u></b>	Minutes for the Historical Commission meeting on December 6, 2016 were unanimously approved, after a motion by Sylvia, as seconded by Richard.
<b><u>TREASURER'S REPORT:</u></b>	Discussion of the current budget/finances was postponed until the next meeting due to time constraints.
<b><u>MHC PRESERVATION PROJECTS FUND (PPF) GRANT:</u></b>	Mary Ellen Fletcher, member of the Finance Committee and the Harbor and Waterfront Advisory Committee, attended the meeting to discuss applying for the MHC PPF Grant to fund repair of the Fish House. Richard has written a scope of work and budget, and the Town has engaged an architect. The necessary work includes a new roof and restoration of exterior elements. The Town has allocated \$95,000 for building repairs in the 2017 budget. Mary Ellen suggested prioritizing the portions of the project that we could potentially get a matching grant for this year, and possibly conducting the work in two phases so that we can get a second budget allocation in 2018. The Commission discussed that the MHC PPF Grant does not allow some costs, such as painting, unless the painting is of a component that needed to be replaced. Mary Ellen recommended presenting the scope of work and funds needed to the Finance Committee at least once or twice, and photographs should be

	<p>provided. It was emphasized that the Historic District Commission (HDC) would need to approve the work to be done prior to applying for the grant. Justina will confirm the maximum grant award and who from the Town is attending the MHC workshop for the grant application. Richard will ask Gino Cresta about the status of the scope of work and let him know that the MHC will need to see that the HDC has approved the proposed work.</p>
<u>WHITE COURT:</u>	<p>Commission members discussed White Court and the fact that the monastery/brewery has declined to move forward with their plans to purchase the property. The Commission discussed other offers that had been received for the property at the beginning of the year, including one from Lark Hotels, which restores historic properties. Justina indicated that she would check with Pete Kane about the current zoning to see if a zoning contingency was possibly the reason that the monastery's offer was selected over the other (reportedly higher) boutique hotel offer. Kim will get some additional financial information from an estate that is owned by the town of Andover and run by a management company to provide to the Selectmen.</p> <p>Regarding the NR nomination process for the property, Justina had reached out to Chris Skelley at MHC and told him that we were not pursuing a LHD at this time, but rather interested in a NR designation to help market the building to a for-profit entity. The Commission discussed that the Blythewood and White Court properties would likely be submitted as a NR District rather than individual properties.</p>
<u>GREENWOOD AVE:</u>	<p>Commission members discussed an upcoming public forum for the Greenwood Ave/Phillips School RFP. Members were encouraged to attend the meeting.</p>
<u>MHC PRESERVATION AWARDS:</u>	<p>Justina is collecting information on the Andrews Chapel restoration project to submit to the MHC for the current round of preservation awards.</p>
<u>PUBLIC OUTREACH:</u>	<p>Commission members discussed fundraising in the form of selling plaques for historic structures in town. Information about the plaques could be sent with the letters to owners of historic structures in the most recent inventory. Justina will contact the town to see if</p>

	the Commission can fundraise.
<u>COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS:</u>	Justina has contacted the Fire Chief about how long they intend to occupy the old police station. The Fire Chief is currently on vacation.
<u>NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:</u>	February 6, 2017
<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>	9:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Phelan, Secretary