

SWAMPSCOTT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING LOCATION: Virtual Meeting
Thursday, May 5, 2022
6:30 pm

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT:</u>	Dana Anderson, Brad Graham, Ryan Judkins, Jonathan Leamon, Justina Oliver, Nancy Schultz, Richard Smith
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT:</u>	Kim Barry, Jean Reardon
<u>OTHERS PRESENT:</u>	N/A
<u>1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:</u>	J. Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
<u>2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2022 AND APRIL 28, 2022</u>	<p>N. Schultz moved to approve the April 7, 2022 minutes as amended; R. Judkins seconded.</p> <p>N. Schultz moved to approve the April 28, 2022 minutes as drafted; B. Graham seconded.</p> <p>Going forward, minutes will be posted on Google Docs. Please review minutes in advance of our next meeting and make additions/corrections online or send to Secretary.</p>
<u>3. TREASURER'S REPORT</u>	<p>R. Judkins provided balance updates.</p> <p>Custom rail bracket for Fish House sign now costs \$591 (additional \$49) due to the addition of two more brackets to ensure wind resistance. Commission reapproved Hestia \$510 bill. We have about \$1,400 left in the general fund. B. Graham moved to approve the increased cost. N. Schultz seconded.</p> <p>N. Schultz is meeting with Michele Barden on May 6 to talk about plaques.</p> <p>J. Oliver asked Town for increase in revolving fund to \$10,000. Must be brought up at next Town Meeting as the Town Warrant for the May</p>

	<p>meeting is closed. We should request the change now to get it on the docket.</p> <p>Hestia bill will be paid from the Revolving Fund.</p> <p>J. Leamon mentioned a number of archive-related items that are needed, including a vacuum cleaner to keep the archives/room clean. He will provide a complete itemized list for approval.</p> <p>Shelving for archives (R. Smith and D. Anderson researched). There is a floating supply of repurposed shelving available from local public libraries. J. Oliver will check with Susan Conner on the availability of shelving for the archives.</p> <p>Cost of Lady Deborah Moody sign is \$266 (Vacker).</p> <p>The Revolving Fund was set up for the Commission to sell Swampscott items and for the plaque program. Money in the fund was from the sale of books and ornaments. All checks from the plaque program go into the Revolving Fund. Upon increasing the limit of the fund, the Historical Commission can request that the definition be expanded to include historic restorations and other HC initiatives.</p> <p>Our prior historic sign maker's estate owes the HC money for signs that were never produced. J. Oliver will determine the amount so that a request can be sent to the Executor(trix) of the estate.</p>
<p><u>4. PRESERVATION BYLAW APPLICATION UPDATES</u></p> <p>a. Updates on inventory of Stanley School</p>	<p>J. Leamon has not received any recommendations on items to save in Stanley School. Feedback from HC requested; we may likely need to pare down the list based on feasibility of saving items.</p> <p>J. Oliver will provide a copy of the minutes which contain the list to Max Kasper so that he is aware of items of interest, in advance. For example, Max will likely know whether</p>

b. 35 Pitman Rd.

we can hope to be able to recover the built-in telephone booth, etc.

Photograph inventory. J. Oliver will find out whether we need to hire someone or if it is part of the demolition process.

The Affordable Housing Trust meeting is scheduled on Monday, May 9 at 5:30 pm. J. Leamon asked all who are available to attend.

J. Oliver will speak with Meeghan (from HH) re: \$10,000 match from grant.

Bennett St. School in Boston has a carpentry program, per R. Smith. In Beverly, the Charles G. Loring house (c.1884) built by architect William Ralph Emerson was demolished in order to build a modern house. The Bennett St. School had worked on restoration...went to the National Building museum to research a window with huge fan light detail...they focused on restoration of architectural details before it was slated to be razed in 2014 by the new owner.
Need to follow up with Bennett St. School in Boston to see if they can restore the front entrance after the home is moved.

J. Oliver will also reach out to This Old House.

Monday's Affordable Housing Trust meeting; not sure if Meeghan will be requesting funding. Marzie will have that information.

N. Schultz had a short conversation with the Town Administrator this week. They discussed the possibility of a beer garden in connection with revealing the Elihu Thomson desk, in order to raise a huge amount of money to start a preservation fund. Train station money was set up into a separate account. We can either put money in a separate fund or expand the current Revolving Fund.

"Historical Commission Preservation Revolving Fund"...proposal to increase limits or make unlimited if that is permitted.

c. general discussion of homes that have not reached 75 years of age

Aim for August re: desk reveal.

R. Judkins pointed out that the HC will not be able to host a Beer Garden because the VFW is already doing one for the 170th anniversary...they are an invited participant. VFW would have to bring their own staffing and liquor license.

We will likely have another Swamptober Fest following success of last year's Fest.

J. Leamon brought up a question raised by D. Anderson regarding two properties on Puritan Lane that are around 72 years old; one was already torn down. Preservation of Historical Commission Bylaw reviewed.

Massachusetts Chapter 40, Section 8D, does not limit demolition delay to properties 75 years old or older; scope is incredibly broad. Options: Go to Town Meeting and ask for a revision of the 75 year rule. Do a Form B, put it on the MACRIS inventory.

259 Puritan Rd., Phillips house is for sale...a historic property.

Wellesley has neighborhood design districts; constraints about what you can or cannot do.

D. Anderson pointed out that he is particularly interested in saving the harbor. Whales Beach; Lincoln House Point is an area already impacted by significant architectural changes.

Town Meeting must approve another Historic District in Swampscott if we decide to go that route; this is within the purview of the Historic District Commission ("HDC").

Rockland St: One of the residents wants Rockland, Blaney and King to be included in a single Historic District. Must bring up to HDC and ask them to vote to form a study committee. There is a timeline, etc. Per D. Anderson, the Olmsted District was unique; it had a real identity. Suggest we pursue with the HDC since we are interested. Long range perspective; capture as much as we can of the historic character of the town. HDC

	<p>worked on the Rockland St. process-it ran into opposition at Town Meeting...it was perceived as personal, so we want to avoid that going forward. There are a number of areas in town that could potentially be historic districts; identify which areas would have enough support. Walk residents through it so they understand...per R. Smith. HDC is fairly busy as it is...if we double or triple property covered it will create much more work...administrative issues... HDC may have too much on their plate.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approach Town Meeting-write up a justification re: purview of HDC. 2. Explore expansion of Historic Districts-preservation districts. Reach out to HDC-J. Oliver already has a spreadsheet started. She will share that project. D. Anderson suggests we target our focus on the waterfront. J. Oliver will work with R. Smith on this. <p>J. Leamon recommended Brian Drummond for potential HC member following recent discussion in Library. Will suggest that Brian complete application if he is interested.</p> <p>R. Smith sent a Wellesley article re: McMansions replacing historic districts. Planning Board has jurisdiction over the type of issue that took place in Wellesley.</p>
<p><u>5. HISTORIC INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE</u></p> <p>a. <u>Update on installations of 4 signs</u></p>	<p>J. Oliver reported that 3 signs have been installed. She posted J. Leamon's photos on Facebook. There have been lines in front of the signs, particularly in Linscott Park.</p> <p>Swampscott Conservancy-Suzanne Hale gave J. Oliver a list of plants to landscape each signpost. They are temporarily filled with grass seed. Gino will plant them through his budget. We might need permission from the Cemetery for the sign plantings. J. Leamon photographed and measured the railing for the Fish House sign, updated for more durability following discussions with Marzie and Gino and currently</p>

<p>b. <u>Proposal for additional sign in Lilac Garden in memory of Lou Gallo</u></p> <p>c. <u>New Sign proposed for White Court</u></p> <p>d. <u>Proposed sign for Old Town Hall where fire station is currently located on Burrill St.</u></p> <p>e. <u>Other recommendations</u></p>	<p>being fabricated by Vacker. J. Oliver approved the order of \$591.</p> <p>J. Oliver circulated a draft of the sign text to HC members prior to the meeting.</p> <p>J. Oliver will send Lady Deborah Moody text to Vacker for layout. Prior to this, R. Judkins will do another proofing for spelling/grammar etc. Community Development typically supplies QR code, working with K. Barry – J. Oliver will inquire.</p> <p>J. Oliver found one photograph of Lady Deborah Moody. Cost of sign panel is \$266 for 24 x 36” sign.</p> <p>J. Leamon will reach out to Marzie to determine whether the request for interpretive signage for White Court should be in the same format as other signs? R. Judkins mentioned he walks down Little Point Road. It is very difficult to find the public way, as the entrance is marked “Private Property” and needs a sign pointing out the right of way. J. Leamon will follow up with Marzie Galazka.</p> <p>R. Judkins recommends a sign near hand tub building. Include the old police station, which is adjacent to the fire station. R. Judkins shared a draft with photos that he had previously written.</p> <p>N. Schultz recommends Native American names-for the future. Cliff St. – is that a public right of way? If so, place a sign there for Black Will’s Cliff-interesting history.</p>
<p>6. PUBLIC OUTREACH</p> <p>a. <u>HISTORY DAYS - June 25-26, 2022 – R. JUDKINS</u></p>	<p>Two weeks ago-outreach group meeting. R. Judkins sent out a summary. He has also contacted school principals...flyers will be placed in backpacks.</p> <p>Overview of events planned for the festival:</p>

Saturday 10-2 – Waterfront focus

Danielle Strauss does not want to split up crowds, so the focus is on the Waterfront on Saturday and Town Hall on Sunday, with some exceptions noted below.

Danielle has booked “Sea Shanties” musical group.

Yacht Club: Will give a talk on Swampscott Dories.

Humphrey House-open house on Saturday-George Chaisson will be running back and forth between waterfront and Humphrey House.

Sunday-2 parts: Farmer’s Market split up with Town Hall focus.

Raffle-HC table. Craft Demo-potter, glassblower, shoemaker confirmed. Blacksmith pending confirmation.

10:15-potter, 11:15-glassblower, 12:15-shoemaker

We will have a printed program; list business in the program. Nobody solicited sponsors, so businesses will simply be listed. We can have businesses hang the event flyer in their windows.

\$3250 original budget.

\$750 will be left in budget from grant from Cultural Council. R. Judkins proposed signs and banners. Flags on light posts if we can get those done on time. We don’t need to dip into the HC budget at this time.

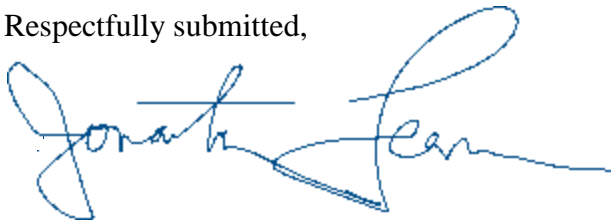
Craft Demonstrators will invoice us. We will pass a couple on to the Swampscott Cultural Council and the rest will be paid from the MCC budget. Craft people cannot be paid until after the event per Trang in Accounting.

Purpose of Raffle is to collect demographic info we have to report back to the MCC....keep track of attendance/headcount in order to satisfy the grant requirements.

<p>b. <u>MUSEUM EXHIBITION – J. LEAMON, N. SCHULTZ</u></p>	<p>Given the amount of information we are requesting, we will have a sign-up sheet for participants and select one at random for the raffle, or buy preprinted raffle tickets.</p> <p>J. Oliver will look into doing T shirt for weekend-commemorate 170th. Her prototype is beautiful! 1852 in nautical flags – logo designed. Production cost can come from the rolling fund. Can also use the logo for historic maps, frame a print and raffle it off – potential to expand the raffle.</p> <p>The Clarke School group canceled their early June tour date. Apparently, they did not file a plan for permission in time. J. Leamon encouraged the teacher to plan a tour for the fall, in advance, since our exhibits will be rolling.</p> <p>Two tours for the Middle School are scheduled for late June and are on the calendar.</p> <p>N. Schultz and J. Leamon are rolling in exhibits for the 170th, gradually replacing the Thomson exhibit. Recent additions include the Town Seal rug hooked by Louie Gallo and a Calvin Coolidge pocket knife researched by K. Barry.</p>
<p><u>7. HISTORICAL COMMISSION STAFFING AND OFFICERS</u></p>	<p>Dianne Marchese is the new Town Administrator-she has just reached out on new appointments-will notify in June. D. Anderson is retiring.</p> <p>Rules and Regulations document-tasks of each role. J. Oliver will circulate old regulations initially drawn up by Jay Mahler, an attorney who served on the HC. She will put the draft into Google Docs.</p>
<p><u>8. OLD BUSINESS</u></p> <p>a. <u>Pending ZBA/building permit applications of interest to the HC</u></p> <p>b. <u>86 Burrill - archives</u></p>	<p>None- zoning activity has been quiet</p> <p>New LED lighting has been installed in the HC main room as well as the smaller office and walk-in closet. Light switches have been replaced and moved as well. The replacement</p>

<p><u>c. Preservation Awards Update</u></p> <p><u>d. Plaque Program update</u></p>	<p>generated a lot of plaster pieces and dust which covered the archives as well as the floor. J. Leamon has vacuumed. HC will need a canister vacuum with a dusting brush to keep up with normal dust on the archives.</p> <p>J. Oliver will talk with Susan Conner about shelving for the space, available from local libraries.</p> <p>J. Oliver would like to present plaques at the 170th festival if they are ready by then.</p> <p>N. Schultz will have a better idea after her meeting with Michelle on May 6.</p>
	<p>Motion to adjourn by R. Judkins; seconded by N. Schultz. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm.</p>
<p><u>Next meeting: Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.</u></p>	<p>HC agreed by consensus to continue to meet on Zoom until current rules expire.</p>

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan Leamon, Secretary
Swampscott Historical Commission