

Medway Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
Historical Society Building, 223 Main St., Medway
Wed., Dec. 7, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

1. Check Quorum—Gene, Paul, Alex, Jeanne. Visitor: Bruce Hamblin
2. ~~Minutes of November discussion~~ (no quorum; no official meeting in Nov.)
3. There were no applications for demolition as of today.

A. Bruce informed us that at the recent Town Meeting there was an article requesting \$30,000 for the demolition of the old **St. Joseph Men's Club**, the building behind Town Hall and the Village Street Fire House. The building has been in deplorable condition for many years but the Town doesn't own it; Gene thinks one of the Boczanowski family members does. However, the building is historic: it's located in an historic district; it was once a fire station and was a school for a time, as well. It was moved to its present location sometime in the past.

B. Bruce suggested we should have plans in our files of houses/buildings which are about to be demolished. He will contact Tri-County Regional High School to inquire about asking students to take on such a project.

C. If the Men's Club is going to be demolished, why hasn't a **Notice of Intent to Demolish a Historic Structure** been filed for comment by this Commission?

D. Gene commented that Notices of Intent to Demolish should be accompanied by a recent photo of the property. We agreed this is a very good idea.

4. **CPC** report: Gene Liscombe

A. There is \$1,175,974 in Medway's Community Preservation (CPA) account.

B. Open Space Committee wants to expand the walking trail. They must have a 100-foot bridge built over the swamp in order to do this. The article to fund this project (from CPA funds) was approved at the recent Town Meeting.

5. **Project Updates**

A. Paul—document preservation project

This project has been completed! The books have been returned and look wonderful. Town Clerk Maryjane White has turned the invoices over to the CPC.

B. Evergreen Cemetery –Historic Preservation status.

i. Paul has completed the required form and turned the information over to our consultant, Stacey Wetstein. She needs more pictures of the cemetery, which Paul will provide. Stacey has prepared a cover letter to accompany the preliminary application for the Mass. Historical Commission.

ii. Paul plans to meet with tombstone-restoration expert Kai Nalenz this Saturday to decide on the next phase of tombstone repair and restoration.

C. Facebook page—16 members as of today (Dec. 7). Please post relevant items. Invite friends. Many thanks to Paul for regular posts.

D. Recruiting new members for this commission: Bruce Hamblin has asked the BOS to appoint him. Jeanne will contact the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to inquire about status. Steven Lee's wife may be interested in being appointed. Someone should invite her to a meeting.

E. House plaques – Alex wonders what parameters the Design Review Committee considers appropriate: size of plaque, type of font, material, etc.

F. Marker for six Civil War veterans' graves in Section A at Oakland Cemetery -- Paul passed around a packet of information he received from the Veterans Administration. They will provide individual grave markers at no cost. They won't provide a larger stone with all six names.

6. Other business

A. Stone Mill

B. IDEAS---Any updates of these ideas for projects using CPA funds; does anyone want to head these up? This is a repeat of item from the past several agendas/meetings—J.J.

Site Markers:

Coffey house,

Garnsey house foundation

Restore Garnsey house foundation?—If we do anything, such as placing a marker or placing new fencing, would an archeological dig be called for? This museum already has numerous artifacts, pieces of pottery and dishware, etc. from around Medway and donated by residents.

Clean portrait of Sanford that hangs in Sanford Hall

Make booklet of historic items at our cemeteries

Make an architectural model of the original town hall—Alex is pursuing this.

Create a book of pictures printed from Medway's collection of about 150 glass images. We definitely want to do this. Paul has access to the plates and pictures.

Boston Post Cane—no further information on its location.

Fire Dept may be looking for a home for their **antique hose wagon**. Jeanne broached the topic with Medway Fire Chief, Jeffrey Lynch, on Nov. 11. He will check with person who is currently housing the wagon.

C. The Historical Society Holiday Open House is Saturday, Dec. 10 from 12 to 3 at the Thayer House.

D. Since our budget has been restored, we have funds to purchase incidental items and send members to conferences or out-of-town meetings that may charge a fee. Alex is looking into purchasing two flash drives for storing or passing along relevant historical information. For example, Paul needs to give Stacey a great deal of information for submitting the application requesting National Registry status for Evergreen Cemetery.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2017 at 7:30pm, Historical Society Building, 223 Main Street, Medway, MA 02053 Call Jeanne Johnson, 508-533-4461 with questions or for further information.

These minutes prepared by Jeanne Johnson.