

Medway Historical Commission
Minutes
Historical Society Building, 223 Main St., Medway

Wednesday, June 1, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

1. 7:40 pm Confirmation of quorum and Call-to-order: Gene Liscomb, Paul Russell, Jeanne Johnson Mark Wilcox
2. **Minutes** of May meeting were read and accepted. Paul moved, Gene seconded the motion.
3. **No applications for demolition** had been received as of today.
- 4 **CPC** report: they will meet next Monday.

5. Updates:

A. Document preservation--The warrant article for expenditure of CPA funds for our historic town document project was approved by Town Meeting. Paul and Maryjane will gather the documents and Paul will photograph each page before the books are picked up by Bill, the representative of the preservation firm.

B. Evergreen Cemetery—Paul is waiting for a letter from the BOS indicating they approve of having the cemetery nominated to the Nat'l Register of Historic Places.

Someone needs to contact whomever plows the cemetery as many stones are being damaged each winter due to plowing. This is a shame as the town has spent a great deal of money restoring and repairing stones. The best plan would be to avoid plowing altogether unless a burial requires access to the cemetery. Who handles this? We don't know.

George Lee?

Town Highway Department?

C. Facebook page was set up by Jeanne and has a couple of members. Invite your friends to join our page.

D. We still need two more members and it would be nice to have associate (non-voting) members, as well.

E. House Plaques—Paul talked to his neighbor, a sign maker. He reminded us we need to coordinate the Design Review Guidelines before we seek out companies to craft plaques.

6. Other business

A. Gene said Selectman John Foresto wants us to be aware of funds that are in the HC portion of the **Community Preservation Fund Account**. There is money to fund historical projects.

B. Ideas of projects other than those mentioned in our goals for 2016 (some of which require funding, such as a marker for Oakland Cemetery as described below):

i. Further protection (cleaning, resetting of stones) and **restoration of gravestones** at Evergreen Cemetery. Mark has made note of stones needing this but has no time to pursue it further. Would Steven Lee spearhead the project if Mark shows him what needs to be done? Past projects have been limited to 50 stones in each phase. Kai Nalenz, tombstone-restoration expert, may be available to do the work.

ii. Clean the portrait of Sanford that hangs in Sanford Hall.

III. Repair the hose tower of the old fire station

iv. Do something more to preserve the foundation of the Garnsey house, the first house in Medway (at the site of the current Dog Park).

v. Identify the Coffey House location and place a marker there.

- vi. Purchase and place site markers at historic Medway sites.
- vii. Make a booklet of historic parts of Evergreen cemetery.
- viii. Make an architectural model of the original Town Hall. Keep it at the current Town Hall or at the Historical Society Museum.
- ix. Have a replica made of the original Boston Post Cane, a black cane with a gold top. The Boston Post Newspaper had these made long ago and presented one to each town in Massachusetts. They were to be given to each town's oldest resident. When that person moved away or died, the cane was to be given to the next oldest person, and so on. Medway's cane has been lost. If we get one made, it could be kept at the Town Hall with a plaque and picture naming the oldest citizen.
- x. The Medway Fire Department is looking for a home for their antique hose wagon.
- xi. Create a book of pictures printed from Medway's collection of about 150 glass images. That would make the images more available to the public.

Adjourned at 9:25 p.m. Gene moved, Mark seconded.

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2016 at 7:30pm, Historical Society Building, 223 Main Street, Medway, MA 02053

2016 Goals:

1. Evergreen Cemetery—work on nomination to National Register
2. Preservation of records—Paul is handling this
3. Recruit members
4. Facebook page—Jeanne volunteered to set this up
5. House plaques
6. Marker for Civil War veterans buried at Oakland Cemetery