

# NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024

Regular meeting of the Newbury Historical Commission began at **7:08** p.m.

**Members present:** Channing Howard, Jan Forrest, Rebecca Fuller, Lon Hachmeister, Eva Jackman, and Rich Morin

**Members absent:** None

**Guest(s):** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the January 11, 2024 meetings were approved with 1 correction; Minutes of February 08, 2024 were approved as presented.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lon –No changes from prior meeting.

**WEBSITE REPORT:** Rebecca has now added all the information on the new 1635 website. It was noted that there will be a continuous stream of information as it is received.

Rebecca is still waiting to meet with the new IT director to get the updated 1635 website launched!

Channing asked about ease of use for visitors. The same process in the old website: tabs with drop boxes and listings of information will continue with all the update information also. Discussion on correcting some information ensued. Opening dates and times of the Schoolhouse were used as an example. The current times, days, and dates will be changed to reflect our current schedules.

Rebecca pointed out that changes can now be made in a timely matter and additions/deletions also. Channing also asked about having access to our website from other groups, such as Museum of Old Newbury, Sons and Daughters, the Custom House, etc. and in turn having their info on our website. A brief discussion ensued about how to get visitors interested in coming to Newbury and looking at our historic area, etc. We are already in sync with the Sons & Daughters, etc.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

**Email from:** Cold War Research Inquiry from Joshua Shanley

**Email to:** Tracy Blais: annual HC report.

**Paper Mail:** none

**Phone Call(s):** none

## NOTES ON CORRESPONDENCE:

1. All members need to do the Conflict of Interest for the state.
2. Annual report information sent to Tracy. We discussed how to fix the number of visitors in the register, when only one person signs. Jan said she updates the counts after the visitors leave.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS UPDATES

1. Channing is still working through information for Roof materials and vendors. Jan offered to put a request for information out on MassHistPres - ListServ through MHC.
2. Discussion of placement of the Fire Extinguisher for the Schoolhouse - ? Near the front door, with a visible sign.
3. MACRIS updates – look at previously handed out information on houses not on MACRIS, but on lists of houses created by year built. Jan asked for everyone to review, so we can narrow down the most significant.  
Schoolhouse - Do we have other needs in the Schoolhouse? Tube light in the back of the Schoolhouse blinks and needs to be replaced.
1. Lon found someone to fix the organ, but it has to be shipped to the company. Discussion ensued about its real origin. We decided to not pursue repairs at this time.
2. Rich expressed concern on the condition of the windows and the need for immediate repairs. Lon mentioned the attic window needs replacing ASAP. Discussion on how we can get repairs due to Town regulations requiring 3 bids. Rich volunteered to put a RFQ together and Lon offered to give him the contact info for the man who was going to fix them last year. The windows are original to the building.

## DISCUSSION

3. Ferry house –discussion on demo permit and DDB review info and steps to be taken to maintain historic view. A copy of the plans was left with us. The owners, etc. will be coming to another meeting in the future.
4. Haystacks are being rebuilt on Rte.1 per Eva. Rebecca asked about filming the process so it can be put on our website. Eva will check on this.
5. Channing asked Lon about remaining budget needs. Printing is usually the largest cost needed.
6. Eva wants us to review the Schoolhouse brochure to see if all info is correct, before we pass to other groups.
7. FYI - Town meeting is on April 30<sup>th</sup>!

## LHDSC (LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE) – UPDATES FROM LON

Individuals are each working on an area of the process to create the local district and they have not had a formal meeting to assess progress lately.

**DDB DISCUSSION** –We need to review the DDB process. Jan passed out information from ListServ on other Cities/Towns DDB updates etc.

We began review the existing information. Lon has a clean, clear copy of the old flow chart. He will scan and copy for the other members. Reviewing the meaning of terms and the flow chart, e.g. significant structure, what determines the need for a public hearing, etc. was requested by Channing before the next meeting. He spoke about the possible need to update the flow chart and possibly the DDB itself in the future.

Rebecca raised the question of how many houses are not triggering the DDB and going through the process.

## ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Historical Commission should be on Thursday, **April 11, 2024**

This meeting was adjourned at **8:20 p.m.**

*Janice M. Forrest*

*04/11/2024*

Janice Forrest

Date of approval: