

NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

Regular meeting of the Newbury Historical Commission began at **7:11** p.m.

Members present: Jan Forrest, Lon Hachmeister, Rebecca Fuller, and Rich Morin

Members absent: Channing Howard and Eva Jackman

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the April 13, 2023 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes with corrections and approved by all.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No changes from the prior month. Lon ordered portable toilet for upcoming season from same company as last year. There was only a minor increase from prior year.
New flags were purchased: Town flag and U.S. Flag.
We voted to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Lon will get a hard copy to Jan to file.

See info on Schoolhouse Bi-Centennial restoration book in **Unfinished Business** below.

WEBSITE REPORT: Rebecca needs the final rendition of the map on the visitor's guide to put on the website from Lon. She will check the downloaded one on the HC page of the Town website. Rich asked what format he should send the indigenous people information to Rebecca. They will work together to get the right set up.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Email from: MHC info on webinar by National Parks Service; Disaster prep training for folks who work in historic buildings, etc.

Asst. Town Planner: Deed for Father Stone; deed has been recorded in Salem and the NHC (Newbury Historical Commission) now has Stewardship of the Stone. (See Notes below for further discussion).

Town Planner, NHC updates to Master Plan working draft; Historic N.E. open houses 06/03 from 11:00 – 5:00; Raymond Merrick question on House plaques; 26 High Rd., questions from owner on repairs to house; Kevin Neville solar 15 Coleman Rd re: Planning Board;; MHC, requested information on Solar Panels; house repairs; Nancy/Fred Thurlow on actual location of 1st settler's landing place. (See **Discussion** below).

Email to: Robin Etheridge, request for solar information he presented at last LHDSC

Mail Received: Ruth Yesair's notes on "Images from the Past" book done for 375th.

NOTES ON CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Devlin Contracting re: solar installation on barn at 15 Coleman Rd.; information was sent to Planning to respond.
2. Discussion on protective barrier of the Witch's stone. Wooden posts should be replaced with steel bollards was suggested by Rich. HC now has Stewardship of the Stone. Jan has asked the Public Works Dept. to weed around all the Mile stones and the Witch's stone.
3. Schoolhouse – we will open from 11 – 3 on Saturday, June 3rd to encourage visitors who may be viewing the HNE open houses. Lon will take 11 – 1 and we need coverage 1-3pm.
4. House plaques – we do not have a ruling on these. We can offer suggestions, but we do not sell them. Atkinson on Hanover St. house plaque was removed. According to HNE, who are reviewing the house building, the dates

on the plaque are incorrect. We suggest using the word “circa” to cover a period of time gives leeway to exact date errors.

5. Brief discussion on e-mail from 26 High Rd.- questions from owner on repairs to house. House is “new” for the area and they are only repairing/replacing windows, etc. We have no issue with the repairs. Permit Link will be updated to OK.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS UPDATES

1. Rich is still working with experts on Indigenous population. He spoke about information he is working on regarding the falls and the surrounding area. Also, he gave some information about the weirs in the river. A brief discussion ensued regarding Longfellow farm and the original apple trees. Lon has a book he will give to Rich.
2. Lon has the original book of the work done on the Schoolhouse for the Bi-Centennial. Lon will get the book scanned and several copies made; approved at April meeting (NTE \$500.00). Cost is higher due to these facts: all sheets are in plastic sleeves and are both horizontal and vertical. Motion was made by Channing, 2nd by Rich, all in favor for Lon to use his discretion on costs. The scan can also be put on 1635 website. This will give us materials info to repair and repaint the interior of the building.
3. Discussion on purchases for the Schoolhouse – Fire extinguishers were brought up. We approved for Lon to get 2 Fire extinguishers.
4. Jan handed out information on handling of solar installations on historic buildings from various sources. We previously discussed have a statement to be created in the future, should inquiries be made. The group should review the information and work on a “standard” response statement that can be discussed at a future meeting.
5. Updates on Master Plan and Planning Board schedule to review with the public, etc. Jan handed out the updated pages of the Historical Commission’s Goals/Actions for the future. Jan met with both Martha Taylor and Kristen Grubbs (Asst. Planner) to review correction, action plans, etc.
6. Rich will try to find a “group” calendar we can use for the Schoolhouse coverage.
7. No update from Lon on LHDSC.

DISCUSSION

1. Nancy/Fred Thurlow on actual location of 1st settler’s landing place. Jan had contacted them to ask question of the area around Landing Stone for the LHDSC. This lead to Fred’s research on the placement of the Stone. According to his research and measurements, he places the landing near the current boat launch. Discussion ensued.
2. The only burial ground/cemetery the Town owns is the 1st Settlers Burial Ground. Jan handed out information from the Town website on Burial grounds/cemeteries in the Town.
3. Schoolhouse annual cleaning: Wednesday, May 17th, 11am – 1pm. Schoolhouse will be opening Memorial Day weekend, May 27-28th.

DDB DISCUSSION

1. None

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Historical Commission should be on Thursday, **June 8, 2023**.

This meeting was adjourned at **8:35 p.m.**

Janice M. Forrest

06/08/2023

Janice Forrest

Date of approval: