Newbury Historical Commission

Approved Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, February 09, 2023**

Regular meeting of the Newbury Historical Commission began at **7:02** p.m.   
  
***Members present:*** Channing Howard, Jan Forrest, Rebecca Fuller and Rich Morin

***Members absent*:** Lon Hachmeister, and Eva Jackman

**Approval of Minutes:**  Minutes of the January 12, 2023 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes with one correction and approved by all.

**Treasurer’s Report:** No changes from the prior month.

**Website Report:**

1. Rebecca continues to work on the website. It is a long process, but progress is being made.
2. We are hoping to add more information to the website. (see Discussion below)

**Correspondence:**

**Email from:** Rich Morin re: windows in Schoolhouse; MHC re: Mass DEP Workgroup on Deconstruction; Inspectional Service- 1) question on Morgan Ave by resident, response sent; 2) inquiry on 1 Main St., response sent; Town Clerk: Conflict of Interest Training; Devlin Contracting re: solar installation on barn at 15 Coleman Rd.;   
**Mail:** Packet from Planning re: 170 Orchard St. Subdivision/shared driveway

**E-mail sent to**: 1) Inspectional Service re: roof work on 5 Hanover St. barn; 2) Nancy & Eva were asked a question on Town owned burial grounds/cemeteries. Response received from Nancy – only 1st Settlers is Town owned; 3) Tracy Blais re: no grant from MPPF for the Schoolhouse; 4) Robin Etheridge re: seminar from MHC on Local Historic Districts. Robin’s reply, MHC will be at the new LHDSC for the Lower Green meeting.   
5) Mass List Serve re: repairing windows in the Schoolhouse. Several replies were received. 6) Jan emailed a list of CR & PR’s know to date to Planning Board and Inspectional Services. A copy was given to each member of HC. It will be an ongoing creation.

**Notes on correspondence:**

1. Devlin Contracting re: solar installation on barn at 15 Coleman Rd.; Need plan information from the contractor. Channing asked Jan to resend to everyone the MHC memo on solar installation on historic areas. Channing talked about Ipswich not allowing changes that you can see from the street.  
   Post development, question is if we can only issue an opinion. We need more information on the plan for the installation and to also contact Martha to see if there are restrictions on the older structures.
2. Morgan Ave. area was called Montgomery Park. Jan handed out a map from the 1890’s. A brief discussion of the area ensued.
3. 1 Main St. Jan responded to the inquiry by Inspectional Services and sent Chrissy a copy of the letter sent to last inquiry. No decisions by the HC until we get an actual Permit taken out.
4. 5 Hanover St. barn; spoke to inspectional services; no trucks or workers on site at time of visit. Peter said he would go look at the site.

**Unfinished Business updates 2**

1. Schoolhouse roof leaks and attic window repair needed. Channing gave information about his search for Dept. of the Interior replacement on Roof shingles. Details were given of different types of synthetic roof material. He mentioned contacting several companies for quotes, etc. Jan put an inquiry out on MassListServe; most responses were on wood roof shakes.
2. Window 2nd floor broke. Rich found an old window in the attic in the Schoolhouse attic. A discussion ensued on repairs, cost, painting, etc. Jan received information on ListServe about several sources for repairing/restoring the windows. Rich will keep checking the attic and will
3. Excel Spreadsheet from Tracy Blais has been filled out. Members were asked to review to be sure everything discussed was put on the form. No additional information was forth coming, so the form will be sent to Tracy as completed. Jan read off information added since last meeting.
4. Upcoming Town anniversary – Jan has a list of all the folks on the Committee.

**New Business:**

1. Witch (Father) Stone, 15 Coleman Rd & Pink house restrictions; Jan created spreadsheet on CR & PR properties, copy given to Inspectional Services & Planning. This will be continually updated a new information becomes available.
2. Year-end reports – annual statement was done by Jan at the request of the Town Administrator. Budget needs to be submitted for fiscal 2024 as Lon is not here, Channing will be responsible. Jan requested Lon check his email.
3. Town Hall – 25 High Rd. The destruction of the existing building will trigger the DDB. Jan stressed the need to make the waiting time longer. Channing led a discussion of why we created it; due to destruction of the Bushee estate and 1 Little’s Lane. Jan relayed some information for ListServe, e.g. some cities/towns have caveats that the structure needs to be sold (move it somewhere); another idea is to force the saving of various artifacts. Question was asked by the Chair – have we received no communication from the Municipal Building Committee regard the building. We need a history of the actual building and dates of buildings.

**DISCUSSION**

1. Rebecca talked about the great photos and maps Jack Rybicki has putting up on Facebook. We discussed having a separate section on the 1635 website to display these articles and photos.
2. Misc. Info.: seminars Jan is signed up to take; she handed out a list 375 Committee members.
3. Channing discussed the plans for 170 Orchard St. development. No sidewalks; Fire Dept. info, etc. He told us the area was originally owned by Longfellow family and abuts the area where the first apple trees were planted. He gave us a short history of the area; apples, corn, Burpee seeds. He spoke about this in a prior meeting and would to have this on the 1635 website. Channing spoke at the Planning Board meeting about the stone foundation in the field. He said we have not any issue with this artifact.
4. We discussed having a one house LHDC; we do not have one at this time. In the future we need to have a LHD on the Upper Green area, as the Lower Green has a Study Committee working on that area presently. We should make sure, if district recognized by MHC, that the established Committee is call Newbury Local Historic Committee, not just the Lower Green LHD.

Jan would like to get Preservation Restriction and a Conservation Preservation on the Schoolhouse and the entire lower green.

**DDB DISCUSSION**

1. Jan brought up the need to update our existing By-law to be having the delay be for a longer period of time and to change the dates of buildings to e.g. older than 50 yrs., etc.

**Adjournment 3**

The next meeting of the Historical Commission should be on Thursday, **March 9, 2023**.

This meeting was adjourned at **8:37 p.m**.

*Janice M. Forrest 03/09/2023*

Janice Forrest Date of approval: