Approved Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 10, 2019

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

Members present: Channing Howard, Carolyn Casey, Jan Forrest, Lon Hachmeister, Rebecca Fuller

Members absent: Eva Jackman, Nancy Thurlow (Alt.), Sue Nagle (Alt.)

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the Sept 12, 2019 meeting were approved. A motion was made to accept, seconded, and carried with unanimous vote.

Correspondence:

1) Correspondence: Stantec: Mass DOT Border to Boston Trail; Request for comment by Planning Board regarding Governor Dummer Academy and French Student Center renovations;
   E-mails: Barn Demo 105 High Rd.; Reply from Town Administrator on placing a sign on the Upper Green for the NHRD through a grant.

Treasurer’s Report: Prepared by Lon H, as of October 1, 2019. A motion was made to accept, seconded, and carried with unanimous vote. Jan asked for a status on her reimbursement for the new Town Flag.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business Updates

1. Upper Green Advisory Committee - Jan provided update on progress;

2. Channing inspected the sign at the Falls (on Central St.). We are going to need to get a new one.

3. Lon will check with the owner of the Ferry House to see if we can copy the “book” he has on the history of the house and all changes he plans on making to restore it.

4. School House Updates: roof: Channing found information on roof shingles allowed with restoration. The fascia has been repaired and will be painted in the spring and the road has been repaired.

5. Rebecca’s husband will assist where needed. We received a business card for web designer, Rich Kent. Rebecca will reach out to him to discuss our old “1635 website” which is deteriorating.

6. NHRD sign: Jan sent an e-mail to the Town Administrator to let the town know we are applying for a grand for the sign(s) for the Upper Green area.
   A question was raised about offering house plaques for a cost. Jan will locate information from prior meetings.
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Atkinson House on Hanover St., Upper Green, is having auction on 10/26/2019.
2. Lon presented information on 277 High Rd, Barton Estate (Plumer homestead). The house/barn from 1700’s and the large acreage behind them are up to be sold and turned into 5 parceled lots. We need to keep an eye on these two (2) buildings and trigger the DDB if necessary. There will be a Public Hearing on 12/10/2019 on the Town’s right to purchase the acreage belong to the estate’s house. This land is in Chapter 61A. Lon will draft a letter to present to the HC at the November meeting for our comments. The letter will be sent to the Town Planner, Martha Taylor for delivery to the BOS. We will also have members at the meeting.

DISCUSSION

1. Discussion of a “Walk through history” gathering at the Library to find old photos, etc.
2. Questions were raised about the doubling of the Veteran/Memorial Budget ($2500 increase). What is this fund used for; could we buy flags for the Upper Green with some of the money?
3. Governor Dummer Academy: renovation of the French Center – A motion was made by Jan and seconded by Carolyn and agree to by all: to “Take no action on 364 Middle Rd. renovation”. Jan will e-mail letter to Martha Taylor, Town Planner.

DDB DISCUSSION

1. 105 High Rd – Demo permit. Channing went to the site. The materials on the outside are modern, not acceptable for a historic building; looking through the windows on the first floor also all new materials. Channing read the e-mail received by Katheryn O’Brien and a short discussion ensued. There is no reason to invoke the DDB for only a few possible interior beams. He will OK demo.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Historical Commission will be on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Jan Forrest Date of approval