

MINUTES: Norwell Historical Commission, Monday, February 4, 2019

PRESENT: Noel Ripley, David DeGhetto, Jim Kelliher, Nancy McBride, Janet Watson, Bob Norris

ABSENT: Trish Shepherd

ALSO ATTENDING: Harry Merritt, Ted Nichols

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the agenda as amended. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes from January and the addendum of the SSSH Subcommittee as amended.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of Trish Shepherd, Noel presented the bills:

Account #81-000-7065-5780 (JFH Income)

Verizon	\$49.16	telephone
National Grid	\$13.47	electricity
Direct Energy	\$14.69	(12/6/2018-1/6/2019)
Direct Energy	\$8.91	(12/6/2018-1/6/2019)

Ted Nichols clarified that the Direct Energy bills are due to the process of consolidating electric bills so that the Town will get a solar credit. Any excess charges will be reimbursed once the conversion is completed.

These bills were unanimously approved.

Account # 24-291-6131-5780 (Stetson Ford House)

Flight Alarm	\$480.00	monitoring fee for 2019
Albert Culver	\$350.00	yearly maintenance
Albert Culver	\$194.00	unspecified balance

These bills were conditionally approved pending clarification of Albert Culver balance. David will make inquiries.

Account # 15-194-8061-6764 (Sargeant Samuel Stetson House)

Merrill Associates	\$525.00	revision of plan for handicapped access
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Jim designed the handicapped access and sent a detailed plan to Merrill. In his opinion, this bill is excessive for the work required by Merrill. Approval for this bill is denied until Jim discusses the bill with Merrill.

SARGEANT SAMUEL STETSON HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

The subcommittee consisting of David DeGhetto and Jim Kelliher, NHC members, and ad hoc members, Alan Prouty, Michael Burrey and Ted Nichols met on January 16. Michael Burrey cannot start most of the work until the fall. Currently it is estimated that the house will be moved

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to the foundation in summer 2019. The consensus was that it was imperative to finish the work to make the house weather tight as soon as possible after the house is finally on the foundation. To achieve this, the recommendation is that the bids be issued separately so that the move, foundation, roof and siding can be completed and more historically sensitive work can be postponed until Michael Burrey is available. The subcommittee will continue to meet and Ted Nichols will develop the RFPs.

29 PROSPECT ST ADDITION

Harry Merritt presented plans for an addition and new barn/ garage for this house. He was referred by the Building Department. Because there is no demolition involved, NHC saw no reason to delay the project but did appreciate that the homeowners were making efforts to ensure that the work was compatible with the historic qualities of the house.

PROPOSAL BY CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO MOVE THE SSSH HOUSE TO CARLTON PROPERTY

Noel reported that he has received a proposal from the Carlton Committee via the Conservation Commission to move the house to the Carlton property. Among the issues members discussed were:

- The process for moving the house to the current site has been ongoing for several years and is near completion. Any change would mean additional delays and expenses.
- There are restrictions requiring that the fields remain open on Main St. so the house would not be very visible on that site.
- It is desirable to keep the house on former Stetson land.
- The process of moving it to Main St. would be cumbersome, expensive and would create traffic problems.

Due to these concerns, Commission members were unanimously opposed to the proposal. Noel will convey this decision to the Conservation Commission.

GRANGE

Jim reported that he tracked down the cause of the delay of approval of the preservation agreement and found that action was needed by Norwell Town Counsel, Bob Galvin. Jim notified Attorney Galvin and the process appears to be back on track. The Liaosas remain interested but reluctant to invest money until it is clear they have title to the property. Jim emphasized the urgency to get repairs started to prevent further damage to the building.

PRESERVATION AWARD

Noel signed the letter to Harry Merritt notifying him of the award which was approved at the last meeting. Janet will mail to Harry and also arrange for the presentation of the award at a Board of Selectman meeting in March. Janet noted that the Beautification Committee recognizes several people every year and this might be a good idea for NHC so that more people are recognized for their preservation efforts.

NORTH RIVER SHIP YARD PROJECT

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Janet gave a brief update on the project to repair the North River Shipyard Plaques. The Historical Society has submitted a request for CPC funds which has been supported by NHC. Norwell has four of the ten plaques that were originally installed along the North River in 1919. The new project consists of having new posts installed probably made of reinforced concrete and having the plaques repainted with zinc paint. Three of the Norwell plaques are on private property. Bob offered to assist in determining what kind of agreements will be necessary with the property owners. The newly formed North River Historical Society hopes to have the work completed this summer.

JACOBS FARMHOUSE REPAIRS/ TBA REPORTS

Ted presented two lengthy existing conditions and program analysis reports prepared by TBA. These reports were in large measure a duplication of evaluations that NHC already had completed. TBA is recommending additional projects including reinforcing the floors in the museum side and chimney repair. Commission members felt that TBA was extending its analysis beyond what they were requested to do which was to oversee and manage deleading the apartment, renovations to make the museum accessible and roof repair. Noel noted that the chimney needs work but in his opinion this repair could be arranged by NHC by use of an insert and repointing the masonry rather than extensive repair of the chimney and this would not interfere with starting work on the roof. NHC members feel frustrated by lack of progress and unclear focus of TBA. The good news is that regulations concerning deleading have changed and the costs will be substantially less than the original estimate. Ted suggested getting estimates for deleading so we can ask that savings be applied to the remaining projects. A subcommittee was organized consisting of NHC members Jim Kelliher, Nancy McBride, Bob Norris and Noel Ripley with ad hoc members Wendy Bawabe and Ted Nichols to remain on top of the project. The proposed meeting date for the subcommittee is February 12 at 7:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Members would like to start meetings earlier so a decision was made to change the meeting time to 7:00 PM.

Next regular meeting will be Monday, March 4 at 7:00 PM.

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