

**MINUTES:** Norwell Historical Commission, Wednesday, January 8 , 2020

**PRESENT:** Noel Ripley, Jim Kelliher, Bob Norris, Janet Watson, Alan Prouty, Anne Greene

**ABSENT:** David DeGhetto, Nancy McBride

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ted Nichols, Bruce Duquet

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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 December as corrected

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

In the absence of Treasurer David DeGhetto, Noel Ripley presented the following bills:

<b>Account #81-000-7065-5780</b>		<b>(JFH Income)</b>
Verizon	\$50.13	telephone
National Grid	\$70.34	electricity
Albert Culver	\$392.90	oil delivery
O'Donnell Landscaping	2720.00	landscaping, August through October
Total	\$3,232.67	

The bills were unanimously approved.

#### **24 BOWKER ST**

Bruce Duquet homeowner was present to discuss his application for a demolition permit for this property. The house has been on the market for a while with no interest in purchase due to the work that needs to be done and features of the house such as steep captains stairs that make it undesirable for families with children. The house was originally built by Isaac Sears in the early 1800s but appears to have been altered. It sits on 4 acres of land and there is a potential for two lots in the rear but the land does abut a stream so this is not definite. Mr. Duquet reported that he would like the demolition permit to pass on to a potential buyer feeling this would make the home more marketable. Commission members explained that a new buyer would have to initiate the process themselves and the permit could not be passed on. Bob Norris advised that if the sale of the house took longer than a year Mr. Duquet could demolish the house and suggested he continue with the process and work with the Commission to save the home. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to make a determination that the house was historically significant. Janet promised to send the timeframes to Mr. Duquet via email and also a summary of timeframes for Commission members to review. A decision was made to allow time to discuss the existing demolition bylaw at our next meeting.

#### **JACOBS FARM CPC APPLICATION**

Bob Norris completed the CPC application for funds to finish repairs of the Farmhouse and took it to the advisory board which voted to support it. The application will be presented at February

RECEIVED  
2020 MAY -8 AM 8:18  
TOWN OF NORWELL  
TOWN CLERK

Town Meeting. Bob reported that the application for clearing the cow path at Cushing Field has been withdrawn from the Town Meeting February agenda because it is not considered an emergency request.

#### **JACOBS FARM PROJECTS UPDATE**

Ted reported on the Jacobs Farms projects. The windows have been stripped, reglazed and repaired. There are 54 sashes which now need a final coat of paint. Estimates have been obtained ranging from \$3700 to \$16,000 for this work. Ted commented that the wide variance raises concern that the bidders do not understand the process so Ted will work with them. The next priority is the interior painting and refurbishing of the apartment. The estimates for interior painting are all over the place so an estimate is not possible. Ted will begin the bidding process for this work so the apartment can be rented as soon as possible.

#### **2019 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD**

As per discussion over the last couple of months, the Commission nominated Marlene Ketchem who rehabilitated the former "Purple House" at 25 Washington St. as a location for her business "The Cabinetry." A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to give the award to Marlene for this beautiful rehabilitation. Marlene is looking into a historic sign board and Wendy Bawabe and Pam Bower-Basso are doing the research. If the timing works out the Commission will give Marlene the sign board as part of the award but all agreed that the most important aspect is the recognition so the sign board will be presented if she has not already obtained one. Janet will check on dates for the award ceremony.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

The next regular meeting will be Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

RECEIVED  
2020 MAY -8 AM 8:19  
TOWN OF NORWELL  
TOWN CLERK