



TOWN OF NORWELL
Norwell Town Offices, Room 112
345 Main Street
Norwell, Massachusetts 02061
(781) 659-8000

Norwell Historical Commission Meeting Minutes August 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Laurie Detwiler at 4:00 PM. Present were Vice Chair Anne Greene, Treasurer James Kelliher, and members Alan Prouty, David DeGhetto, Nancy McBride, and Lily Cleveland. Rachel Wollam was unable to attend. Also in attendance was Facilities Director Ted Nichols. The meeting was held in the Local History room of the Norwell Library.

AGENDA

The Commission reviewed the agenda; Mr. Kelliher added a discussion of a new project at Hornstra farms.

Motion by Ms. Detwiler to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Ms. Greene and unanimously voted.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 5 and July 17 meetings were distributed and reviewed.

Motion by Ms. Greene to accept the minutes of the June 5 and July 17, 2023 meetings as submitted. Seconded by Ms. McBride and unanimously voted.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND BILLS

The following invoices were presented for approval:

Name of Vendor:	Item/ Activity Description	Date of Invoice:	Amount:	Account Number:
1. Verizon	Communication Service to Jacobs Farmhouse	July 6, 2023	\$44.18	81-000-7065-5780
2. National Grid	Electric Service to Jacobs Farmhouse	July 10, 2023	\$69.29	81-000-7065-5780
3. Albert Culver	Stetson-Ford House: Cleaning System	July 28, 2023	\$228.32	24-691-6131-5780
4. Christopher Sullivan – Proofreading & Transcription Services	NHS Minutes of Meeting – July 13, 2023	August 4, 2023	\$100.00	01-691-0201-5780
5. Lynn Smiledge	Form B inventory (20)	July 19, 2023	\$5720.00	(CPC)
6. Justin Humphries	Architectural Services	August 9, 2023	\$2563.82	15-194-8099-6797
Total of Billable Amounts Listed Above:			\$8725.61	

Motion by Ms. Detwiler to approve the invoices as submitted. Seconded by Mr. DeGhetto and unanimously voted.

NEW BUSINESS

Building Department Referral Process

All present discussed ideas to support better communications between the Building Department and the Commission. Building will be providing application information, including addresses, so Commissioners can visit the property and decide whether to add it to the next meeting's agenda. Building Commissioner Tom Barry has started referring applications for partial demolitions to the Commission in addition to the full demo applications. Chair Detwiler will review the filings, with Vice Chair Greene acting as alternate. Mr. DeGhetto suggested the Commission should have an admin to provide assistance, as is provided for other committees.

Ms. Greene asked if Building had a list of the Town's inventory of Form B properties; Ms. Detwiler indicated they are using a list of properties based on date of construction at Mr. Barry's request. The process will be further encapsulated in the new bylaw.

533 Grove Street

A full gut was done of the property beyond the scope of the building permit and what the builder discussed with the Commission in April. Building Commissioner Tom Barry has issued a cease and desist and fines of about \$1500 to date, and has suggested the Commission issue its own fines. Ms. Detwiler opined the Commission's current fines were not significant, but she will explore the fining and delay options further with Mr. Barry; both will be strengthened under the new bylaw.

Motion by Mr. Prouty to impose the maximum delay allowed under the demolition delay bylaw, with homeowner able to bring proposals before the Commission for approval during the delay period. Seconded by Mr. Kelliher and unanimously voted.

OLD BUSINESS

Form B Update

Consultant Lynn Smiledge had completed the first batch of 20 Form B updates and will begin on the second batch. Ms. Cleveland advised that the records for 60 Fox Hill Lane had been sealed; Ms. Detwiler suggested that the property be swapped out of this batch in favor of another property.

Ms. Cleveland received a proposal from Ms. Smiledge to prepare Form As for 150 homes, dated 1951 and later, in the Norwell Homes area at a cost of \$4000-\$6000. After a discussion of whether the funds in the CPC account could be used for this purpose, it was decided to table the matter until after the Form B updates has been completed.

NEW BUSINESS

Hornstra Farms

Hornstra is seeking a USDA grant to install a 79 kw rooftop solar array on two buildings, a barn in back and the main building housing the retail store. Consensus after discussion was that the Commission did not have much say in the matter beyond suggesting the arrays not be put on a historic structure.

September Meeting

The September meeting was moved to the 11th, as the 4th is a holiday. Mr. Prouty will report the invoicing, as Mr. Kelliher will not be present.

Motion by Ms. Detwiler to change the next meeting date to September 11 at 5:30 PM. Seconded by Ms. Greene and unanimously voted.

NEXT MEETING

September 11, 2023 – Norwell Town Library, 5:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT

*There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Detwiler to adjourn at 6:31 PM.
Seconded by Ms. Greene and unanimously voted.*

I hereby certify that the above minutes were presented and approved by a majority vote of the
Norwell Historical Commission on _____.

Laurie Detwiler, Chair