TOWN OF WINCHENDON

Corey Bohan - Chairman
James McCrohan - Vice Chairman
Mary Harrington - Secretary
Lois Abare
Peggy Corbosiero
Y. Gerry Harrington
David Plumber



Historic Commission 109 Front Street, Dept. 9 Winchendon, Massachusetts 01475-1758

Office Hours:
Monday - 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday through Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday - CLOSED
Telephone: (978) 297-3308

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Minutes

Regular Meeting Wednesday January 9, 2019 4th Floor Conference Room

Members Present: Corey Bohan, Lois Abare Peg Corbosiero, Yvonne Harrington, Jay McCronon, Mary Harrington

Members Absent:

Others Present: Jenelle Sroczynski Recording Secretary, Jill Sackett, Project Lead for the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Meeting called to order: 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of the 9-12-2018 Regular Meeting Abare/Corbosiero 4-0 Approved, I Abstention @, 6:08 pm.

Public Comment:

Ms. Jill Sackett is in attendance to speak to the upcoming repairs the Unitarian Church is hoping to make to the building. She is a member of the governing board of the church, and is looking for the Commissions support for their upcoming project. There was an engineering study performed back in 2015. There are a number of deterioration issues that need to be addressed as the church was built in 1866. There will be no structural changes, the façade is what will be repaired. Some long standing issues were exacerbated due the extremely wet year we have had. The tower seems to be in the worst shape. Ms. Sackett provided the Commission with a report out lining what repairs will be made. A Robinson-Broadhurst grant has been applied for. The project is expected to take a few years to complete due to the funding constraints. The Commission provided Ms. Sackett with additional grant and contact information for the State of Massachusetts in hopes of a positive outcome of this project, for one of Winchendon's oldest buildings. The Commission would like time to review the report. Motion for Commission to review report and delay support letter until the February 13, 2019 meeting Corbosiero/Abare 5-0 Approved, 1 Abstention @ 6:35pm.

Member Comments:

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Ms. G. Harrington provided the Commission with the Town of Royalston's Internal Rules and Regulations for their Historical Commission. Mr. Peter Kraniak was most helpful getting her the information. Their by-laws will also be sent. Ms. Harrington has reached out to other communities, but has had not received information from them. She will continue her work. Ms. M. Harrington suggested getting information in an electronic format as it would be easy to edit for the Commission's needs. Ms. M. Harrington has figured out the phone situation and should be able to be called regularly to attend meetings. She is interested in skyping, face-time, or video chatting as well in order for her to be a more involved member. She will be traveling to Virginia and would like to continue her membership. Ms. G. Harrington inquired as to the progress with speaking to the Veteran's Agent in hopes of securing a spot in his office for the Commission's information. Mr. Bohan to pursue. There is some concern about the flag remaining at half-mast on the Old Center Common. Mr. Bohan to contact Chief Smith to see if the Fire Department could help with the issue. If not a bucket truck may need to be hired. Mr. McCronon is interested in creating a Bee/Butterfly habitat on the perimeter of the Militia Field. He intends to speak to the Conservation Agent to see what if anything needs to be done in order to accomplish. He will give an update at the next meeting. There is also concern over the condition of the lawn on the Old Center Common. This falls under the town's puview. Mr. Bohan to check with Mr. Gallant.

Native American Project: There is no update for this meeting. Mr. Bohan expressed that Mr. Plummer has been ill and encouraged members to send him their well wishes. Mr. Bohan has access to all information and equipment for the project. Mr. Bohan is hoping to relay updates to the Commission. Motion to send Mr. Plummer a dishgarden G. Harrington/M. Harrington 6-0 Approved @ 6:57 pm.

<u>Historic Commission Policies:</u> This is an ongoing item. Item is tabled until February 2019 meeting.

<u>Old Business:</u> There is ongoing concern regarding the former Pleasant View Estate. A Certified letter was sent and received asking for Mr. Kuipers to appear at the December 2018 meeting and give the Commission an update on the project. No response was received. The Commission will send second letter. If no response is received for February 2019 meeting, the Commission will contact the Code Enforcement Officer for the Town and inquire what can be done. Ms. Corbosiero volunteered to be the liaison between the Commission and Mr. Geoff Newton the Code Enforcement Officer.

Other Business: Mr. Bohan has been having issues with the time of the meeting due to his commute and traffic. Mr. McCronon has run into the same problem. Mr. Bohan is suggesting the meeting time be moved to either 6:30 pm Corbosiero/Abare 6-0 Approved @ 7:21pm. Mr. Bohan to check with town officials to make sure there is no conflict.

Next Meeting: February 13, 2019 at 6:30pm.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Corbosiero/Abare 6-0 Approved 7:26pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:27pm.

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Respectfully submitted by: Jenelle Sroczynski Board Secretary

Minutes Approved By:

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John Colone