

Winchendon Historic Commission

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, January 9, 2025
Via Remote Participation

Members Present: Mary Harrington, Yvonne Harrington, Jenelle Sroczyński, James McCrohon, Guy Corbosiero,

Members Absent:

Others Present: George Haramundanis, Resident

Meeting called to order: 4:03p.m.

Minutes:

*Motion to approve minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting Sroczyński/McCrohon 5-0
Approved by roll call vote @ 4:05 pm.*

Announcements:

Chairwoman Harrington announced that Town Clerk Wendy Stevens had distributed the OML training requirements. Ms. Sroczyński has forwarded to members. Please check emails and respond accordingly. Ms. Harrington has also been working on the outline for goals for the Commission. She will forward documentation to be edited or commented on for the February meeting. This will be instrumental in producing the Commission's annual report due to the town in February. Ms. Harrington would like to start updating MACRIS. The Commission had previously paid for a subscription to grant station, and she would like to utilize this tool as well. Potential expansion of the Historic District and obtaining grants for projects are of high priority. Mr. McCrohon is interested in promoting tourism and small businesses in town. He stated Northampton, MA has been very successful in their revitalization efforts, and he would like to see some of the same results in Winchendon. Ms. Gerry Harrington mentioned she had attended a meeting regarding the Demo by Neglect By-law. She will forward her notes. Ms. G. Harrington feels it is important to partner with other communities and work together to preserve historic structures.

Public Comments:

Mr. George Haramundanis is in attendance to discuss his property at 160 Hall Road, the Adams Farm. Mr. Haramundanis and his wife have been restoring the house for the past year or so, and it is a solid structure. His concern is the barn, that has fallen into disrepair. He is looking to the Commission for guidance as to how best proceed. Ms. Sroczyński commended Mr. Haramundanis on all of the work he has done, and stated the house looks wonderful. She does understand the severity of the condition of the barn, and wants to make sure it does not

become a safety issue, with the potential of collapse. Chairwoman Harrington suggested he can follow the Demo by Delay By-law. Mr. McCrohon asked if the barn would be rebuilt? There is a lot of valuable wood that could be salvaged. Mr. Haramundanis assured the Commission that he would be deconstructing the barn, and salvage what he could. He may use a "barn kit" to build a replacement. Mr. Haramundanis would bring his plan-when he is ready- to the Commission for Approval. Mr. Haramundanis stated he is interested in the history of Winchendon and inquired what if any programs for school kids are available. He is also interested in becoming an alternate member. Mr. Corbosiero suggested sending a letter of interest to the Town Manager.

Member Comments:

Mr. Corbosiero stated he is heading to Florida, and will try to attend meetings while he is away. He mention the MPIC Committee has been reorganized after the departure of Jill Sackett, and he is the new Chair. Ms. Nickerson is also on the Committee, and has been very busy. She is interested in becoming a Commission member, but won't be available until spring. Mr. McCrohon stated he had gathered some information on how the Commission can be involved in historic home renovations that are not located within the Historic District. Ms. Sroczynski has forwarded to members. Ms. Sroczynski commented on the annual report being due in February. She also stated the 2025 Fall Fest applications have gone out and she received the packet from Ms. Roberts. Ms. Gerry Harrington is concerned over the Veterans Homestead Building on the Common. It is reported to be riddled with trash, fleas, bed bugs, and general disrepair. This was a very important building in town and she would like to know that status of it. Chairwoman Harrington will reach out to Building Commissioner Rick Germano.

Old Business:

No updates

Next meeting scheduled for February 12, 2025 at 4pm.

Adjournment: *Motion to adjourned McCrohon/Sroczynski 5-0 Approved by roll call vote @ 5:08pm.*

Meeting Adjourned at 5:08pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jenelle Sroczynski
Board Secretary

Minutes Approved By:
