

Approved 3-12-2025

Winchendon Historic Commission

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 12, 2025
Via Remote Participation

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

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Meeting called to order: 4:01p.m.

Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of the January 9, 2025 meeting Y. Harrington/M. Harrington 5-0 Approved by roll call vote @ 4:03 pm.

Announcements:

Chairwoman Harrington announced that she has been working on the ethics requirements for the Commonwealth, and the software is easily managed. She reminded all members to complete the trainings. Ms. Harrington also said she has requested to join the Charter and By-law Review Committee. She will also be submitting the annual town report due on February 26th.

Public Comments:

None was heard.

Member Comments:

Ms. Sroczynski told the Commission she has had a conversation with Town Accountant Katie Media regarding the \$10,000 of Commission monies sitting in a gift account. Ms. M. Harrington has proposed utilizing some of the funds to hire Ms. Sroczynski to update MACRIS, write grants, and other administrative duties that have not been getting done over the years. Ms. Sroczynski explained the town is facing quite a budget deficit for FY 26. It was stated Town Manager McKinney has his hands full with the budget process over the next several weeks. Ms. Sroczynski will reach out to Mr. McKinney to inquire as to the process of getting the funds released and utilizing them. Ms. Sroczynski will also follow up with Mr. O'Neil as to the status of the computer and phone lines in the

office.

Chairwoman Harrington stated she would also like to see the establishment of a downtown historic district. She has forwarded a plan to all members for review and input. There is also a membership to grant station that can be utilized. Ms. Y. Harrington stated she would like to see some kind of contract in place, along with a timeline or status report of projects. Mr. McCrohon expressed some reservations regarding Ms. Sroczynski working on the MACRIS information. He feels an Architectural Historian should lead the cause. He also stated the recognizance report has not been updated since 2006. He feels these are difficult tasks to undertake for someone who has no formal training. Chairwoman Harrington stated other goals for Ms. Sroczynski would be tracking of structures at risk of demolition, tracking of building permits issued, and having a presence in Town Hall. Mr. McCrohon advised taking a cautious approach as to how property owners are approached, and address their concerns. The Commission would like to have information on the Town's website, and perhaps informational kiosks. Ms. Y. Harrington mentioned the need to be fiscally responsible, transparent, and be in line with the Master Plan. *Motion to hire Ms. Sroczynski for 5 hours per week at \$50 per hour once approved and coordinated with the Town M.*

Harrington/Corbosiero 3-0 Approved, 2 Abstentions by roll call vote @ 4:53 pm.

Old Business:

No updates

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

Adjournment: *Motion to adjourned Corbosiero/Sroczynski 5-0 Approved by roll call vote @ 4:57pm.*

Meeting Adjourned at 4:57pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jenelle Sroczynski
Board Secretary

Minutes Approved By:
