

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
Fax: (978) 297-5411

RECEIVED
JUN 13 2019

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK

Minutes
Regular Meeting
Wednesday May 8, 2019
4th Floor Conference Room

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

Members Absent: Mary Harrington

Others Present: Jenelle Sroczyński Recording Secretary, Don O'Neil, President WHCC

Meeting called to order: 6:30p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance immediately followed.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of the 3-13-2019 Regular Meeting Corbosiero/Abare 5-0
Approved, @ 6:35 pm.

Public Comment:

None were heard

Member Comments:

Ms. Corbosiero attended the MRPC Preservation Presentation by Chris Skelley and found the information presented to be most beneficial. The highlights of the meeting were local districts vs ~~state and~~ federal districts. How Historic Districts can be formed even if it is a single dwelling with the property owner is in agreement with the Historic Property Restriction. This would also have to be approved by local government, and state criteria must be met. Mr. Bohan commented the Central Massachusetts Historic Commission Consortium is newly organized and has amazing resources. Mr. McCronon was interested in what credits are available for homeowners who own historic homes as they are more expensive to heat, insure, and maintain. Mr. Bohan explained there are none at this time, however new programs are coming up. There are quasi income tax incentives, yet no property tax breaks. The Commission may be interested in putting up more "circa" signs to define the Historic Districts in town. It was stated they can be obtained from the Department of Interior. Mr. O'Neil stated there is a sign project happening through the Town and there should be signs being provide through that. Ms. Sroczyński informed the Commission that the Kuipers had received

and signed off on the third letter that was sent. Ms. Sroczyński to send additional letter and cc Mr. Geoff Newton and include verbiage to state “per stipulation granted in your permit application, and to avoid a court order being pursued, you must finish demolition and clean up the project site.” A follow up from the Kuipers must be via email, US Mail, or meeting attendance. Mr. Bohan announced an upcoming seminar from the UMass Amherst Dept. of History. It is entitled Empowering Our Communities Through History. It will be held on June 24th in Worcester. Mr. Bohan was approached by Mr. David Whitaker of the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission is looking for additional support from the Commission regarding the White’s Mill Dam. This is the last original dam in town, it is comprised of fieldstone and earth. There seems to be some concern regarding the safety of the dam, and potential flooding issues. Mr. Bohan mentioned the possibility of invoking Article 16, Demolition Delay. Ms. Corbosiero to check with Mr. Corbosiero as he may have information regarding this. Mr. Bohan would like to invite the Conservation Commission and Planning Board to next meeting.

Native American Project:

There was no update for this project.

Historic Commission Policies:

No new policies were presented at this meeting

Old Business:

New Business:

Ms. Harrington along with other Commission members are concerned about the new trees that were planted in the Old Center Common. The Commission was not informed as to who was planting the trees, nor had a say as to what trees were planted. Mr. McCronon had drawn the original plan for plantings on the common, and these trees do not adhere to the plan.

Although it is a public park, the Commission should have been consulted. Mr. Bohan will try to gather information regarding this.

Mr. Don O’Neil is in attendance to express his interest in filling the vacant seat on the Commission. He has been the President of the Winchendon History and Cultural Center for the past nine years. He works at Town Hall, and has a deep understanding of the history of Winchendon, and would like to be of service if he can. Dr. William Russo also expressed an interest and was invited to the meeting, but did not come. *Motion to accept Mr. O’Neil’s application Corbosiero/Abare 5-0 Approved @ 7:12 pm.* The Commission unanimously voted to accept Mr. O’Neil’s application.

Mr. Bohan stated he will be processing year end bills and reviewing the budget items. Ms. Sroczyński offered to help

Next Meeting: June 12, 2019 at 6:30pm.


Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn: Abare/Corbosier 5-0 Approved 7:19pm.*

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jenelle Sroczyński
Board Secretary

Minutes Approved By:

Luis A. Abare


Peggy Ann Corbaccio
Ernest H. Henning
