

Town of Maynard  
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, February 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Jack MacKeen at 6:30pm in the Trustees Room, Maynard Public Library.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack MacKeen, Ellen Duggan, Lee Caras, Paul Boothroyd, John Courville and Brion Berghaus. Absent: Priscilla Sandberg, Peg Brown and John Brandon.

Paul made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21st meeting. It was seconded by John and approved.

**COOLIDGE SCHOOL:**

An application for CPC funding for the rehab project will be delayed until the fall.

The Coolidge School Committee is soliciting letters of support for the current project plan from a broad group of Town committees and other organizations. The Commission discussed drafting and signing such a letter that would focus on the historic aspects of the project.

Jack made a motion that the Commission provide a letter of support regarding the historical aspects of the development plan. Discussion followed about whether MHC was open to talks with the developer, Civico, regarding details of a CPC application, e.g., possibly repointing the outside walls, or applying for a preservation restriction. The motion was tabled until the next regular Commission meeting.

**CURRENT TOPICS**

**Mill Curfew Bell:**

Ellen reported that the Finnish Church had been sold. Sellers requested a six-month stay to be able to remove church features from the building. The bell at the church must be gifted to the Town. \$20,000 is being sought from CPC for the project. Astro Crane estimated that the removal/relocation cost for the bell is \$7,000. The Commission and the church will need to work with the DPW on logistics and more.

**Historic Marker for the Mill at Ken Olsen Plaza:**

Ellen presented the mockups and spoke about two potential design firms—their requirements, and the pros and cons of working with each. Possible funding sources for the project were discussed, including grants, and donations from local businesses, clubs, associations, and the Mill, whom Jack will approach. These funds would be needed in addition to the Commission's annual budget allocation.

Ellen made a motion that the Historical Commission engage Lynn Horsky to move the project forward, subject to finalizing a contract with her company. It was seconded by Lee and approved.

**Historical Markers for Historically Significant Properties:**

Jack will draw up and distribute a list of the HSP that still have no markers. The final marker for this fiscal year will be for the Finnish Church Mill curfew bell.

**Sesquicentennial:**

Discussion was tabled because Ellen had to leave to do a presentation to the BOS regarding the Mill curfew bell.

**The Commission's Five-Year Plan:**

The current plan was reviewed line item by line item. Lee will send plan updates/revisions to Jack to update the plan spreadsheet.

**National Register Properties:**

Jack asked everyone to bring a list of their top ten choices for NR consideration to the next regular meeting. Properties mentioned were the Orthodox Church, the Amory Maynard house on Main Street, the Mill, the Coolidge School, the St. Bridget's complex, the early school on Summer Street, the Hillis house, and the Gibson Farm.

**NEW TOPICS**

Deed Research Assistance for the HSP list: was tabled.

March 18th Library Community Fair participation: display materials will be gathered.

**Other:**

An historical marker for the St. Bridget's Rectory was approved.

The plaque application submitted by the owner at 26 Walnut Street was approved.

Jack made a motion to renew the Commission's annual membership in Historic New England and Freedom's Way Heritage Foundation. It was approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul, seconded by John and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:** March 17 and April 21, 2020, at the Maynard Library.