

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, July 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Jack MacKeen at 7pm via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack MacKeen, Ellen Duggan, Lee Caras, Paul Boothroyd, Ann Gibson, Brion Berghaus, and Priscilla Sandberg. Invitee: Dave Griffin.

Paul made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16th meeting. It was seconded by Ellen and approved.

CURRENT TOPICS

Mill curfew bell preservation update:

Ellen reported that it will cost about \$10,000 to remove the bell and place it in storage. The rigging company and crane expense will be about \$7,000. Additional expenses will be the carpentry work to open and close the bell tower. There will be DPW supervision and a police detail. The CPC grant totals \$20,000. The permanent installation project will likely use the balance of the funds.

Historic Marker for the Mill at Ken Olsen Plaza:

Ellen reported that Dave Wisnewski has done more work on retrieving and scanning needed images. Work will now focus on the backside panels. Additional funding is needed to meet the estimated total cost of \$12,000. She will reach out to potential donors. Checks should be made payable to MHC and will be deposited in the Town's special account for the Mill marker. Jack will put together a solicitation letter. Discussion followed about what might be done if excess funds were raised. Jack made a motion to open the project to public funding. It was seconded by Paul and approved.

Sesquicentennial:

Ellen reported that the 150th Committee plans a drive-in style movie for September, and a parade and fireworks for fall 2021. David Mark's Town history book should be available around mid-November this year.

Acton Powdermill Road project:

Jack reminded the Commission of the two saltbox houses on Powdermill Road that are on the Historically Significant Properties List. While their owner intended the 6-story building project to span the Maynard/Acton town line, it is now limited to Acton. Paul thought we should wait to see how the project progresses before we consider any kind of action in relation to the historical houses.

NEW TOPICS

CPC Applications for the Fall funding cycle:

Various possible projects were offered. Jack proposed that additional gravestones at Glenwood Cemetery be refurbished and that the 12:10 Town air horn be considered for possible restoration. The Town boundary markers are also in need of restoration and possibly replacement. Action item: Jack will ask the Town engineer, Wayne Amico, about who actually owns the town bounds markers. Ellen said that the joint application with the School Committee for the field house refurbishment has been tabled for now. Dave Griffin noted that the Mill Street bridge, one of only a few WPA bridges in Massachusetts, was in

need of an upgrade and would also be worthy of an historical marker. It is probably on the list of bridge upgrades needed in Town.

New member update:

Jack reported that Brion Berghaus and Paul LeSage had sent letters to the Town requesting that they be appointed as alternate members of the Commission. Peg Brown, a former, long-serving member of the Commission asked to remain on the distribution list for meeting minutes.

FY 2012 Funding Reduction:

Jack reported that the proposed budget had been cut from \$2,500 to \$2,000.

OTHER

Lee will resend the meeting agendas and minutes missing from the Commission's listings on the Town website to Dave Griffin.

Ann is working on creating a notebook for the Library that shows all the plaques and markers produced by the Commission. Peg had begun this project some time ago, and now Ann aims to complete it.

Ellen proposed that the Commission send Peg an official acknowledgement in gratitude for her many years of service in promoting the history of Maynard.

Dave Griffin commented that the efforts that have gone into the MACRIS database continue to be rewarding to the public.

In closing, Jack said that the Commission might need to meet in August. This would be by Zoom.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul, seconded by Ellen and approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: September 15, 2020, and October 20, 2020