

Town of Maynard
MAYNARD HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, March 16, 2021

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack MacKeen, Ellen Duggan, Lee Caras, Paul Boothroyd, Priscilla Sandberg, John Courville (voting member after Priscilla left at 8pm), Ann Gibson and Paul Lesage.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brion Berghaus and John Brandon.

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

CURRENT TOPICS

Mill Curfew Bell project update:

The bell can be installed temporarily on the second floor of the Library near the reference section. This will require a professional moving company. The construction of a display platform will also require professional consultation and then services of a cabinetmaker.

On a related topic, Ann will ask Sara Lundberg about used cabinets that might be available at the Concord Museum.

Resource Notebook on MHC positions and procedures:

Discussion covered numerous aspects of Commission work and the relevant State statutes that form the basis of its operations. Topics included MHC's regulatory role (demolition delay bylaw), budget planning, correspondence, gifts, MHC representation on the Community Preservation Committee, use of the Town website, and the historical markers and house plaques programs.

FY21 Historical Markers:

Jack reported that he had sent out 15 "owner interest" letters to the owners of properties the Commission is targeting for markers this fiscal year. Response deadline is March 31. Paul B volunteered to develop marker content for #2 Summer Street (the former Methodist Church). Lee volunteered to do the same for #36 Great Road (the Haman Smith house). The owner of #15 Brown Street, where there is a house plaque, would like to have an historical marker. Paul volunteered to develop content.

Ann volunteered to be the co-ordinator of markers and plaques. Ellen and Paul B volunteered to assist her. Ann also volunteered to manage the annual update of the Historically Significant Properties list data and forward any changes to the Town Building Commissioner, Rick Asmann.

National Register applications:

Lee said that Kathy Broomer, our former MACRIS consultant, has agreed to give a presentation about the application process at our April meeting. Jack is also inviting the Stow MHC chairperson, Dot Spaulding, to attend. In advance of the meeting, Lee will provide Kathy with the February list of potential NR candidates.

Ellen reported that several Massachusetts towns have used CPC funding for NR applications.

House Plaque Program application;

Ann presented the revised House Plaque Application form.

MOTION to approve: was made by Jack. It was seconded by Lee and approved.

NEW ITEMS:

Sesquicentennial event plans 2021:

Ellen detailed plans that will take place on April 19 (Founders Day) on the lawn of The Sanctuary (weather permitting) at 11:30 am. Ann will read the Fowler petition, Kate Hogan and Jamie Eldridge will speak, the time capsule will be opened, church bells will ring, the Town whistle will blow at 12:10, and more.

MPPF (MA Preservation Projects Fund) Grant application:

John Courville reviewed this State historical matching grant program. Lee pointed out that a project had to take place on a property that is on the State Historical Register, the only Maynard qualifying property being Glenwood Cemetery. Consideration of a Glenwood Cemetery project will be tabled until next January.

MACRIS Candidates:

Commission members are working to develop a new list that will include objects, businesses and areas.

OTHER:

Freedom's Way Heritage Foundation:

Following discussion,

MOTION: by Jack not to renew membership. It was seconded by Paul B and approved.

Glenwood Cemetery gravestone restorations:

Ellen said that a CPC application for the restoration of about 40 stones of founding families (in honor of Maynard's 150th) would be presented for approval at spring Town Meeting.

Ann's 2021 Maynard tours:

Ellen proposed that the Ellen Duggan Gift Fund give a grant to Ann to make up for the shortfall in her MCC grant.

MOTION: by Jack to approve \$400 from the Fund for a tour grant. Paul B seconded the motion and it was approved.

Lee forwarded the Eventbrite tours reservation link to Dave Griffin to post on the MHC website.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jack, seconded by Paul B and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: April 20 and May 18, 2021.