



TOWN CLERK

**TOWN OF GRAFTON**  
GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER  
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[www.grafton-ma.gov](http://www.grafton-ma.gov)

## MINUTES

Grafton Historical Commission  
7:00 p.m., May 12, 2016  
Grafton Municipal Center, Conference Room A

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GRAFTON, MA

A regular meeting of the Grafton Historical Commission was held on May 12, 2016.

Vice Chairwoman Morgan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Ann Morgan, Donna Girouard, John Stephens, Robert Aberg, Mark Fobert

### 1. Public Input

None received.

### 2. Action Items

A. Open Meeting Minutes – Donna Girouard moved to accept the minutes of April 14, 2016 as amended. John Stephens seconded. Motion carried: aye-4, nay-0.

### 3. Bills

Ann Morgan and Donna Girouard tentatively accepted to June walking tour development workshop at the Mass History Conference. Robert Aberg moved to have the Commission pay the bill for the class for both attendees. John Stephens seconded, motion carried: aye-4, nay-0.

### 4. Old Business

A. Tercentenary Signs Rededication on Grafton History Day on May 14, 2016 – Robert Aberg to provide a list of people to thank to Ann Morgan to print certificates of appreciation to be distributed to those who helped with the restoration, including the Historic District Commission, Parks & Cemeteries, Highway Dept. and the students and faculty of Worcester Technical High School led by teacher Rick Torres. A table with photos and copies from the original state book on the tercentenary markers will be set up on the Common as part of the History Day events, and a rededication speech will be given by Robert Aberg at approximately 10 am.

Mark Fobert joined the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Ann Morgan introduced the Old Connecticut Path website's information regarding the location of the Thomas Hooker Trail's likely route through Grafton. It is aligned with Pleasant St. and Church St. and not Pullard Rd., so the idea that "the Thomas Hooker Trail marker is in the wrong spot" now has more pointers to potential supporting evidence. If

sufficient reliable information can be found for where the trail lies, the marker should be moved to a spot along the trail, likely in South Grafton.

B. Membership Vacancy – vacancies posted, candidates to be identified.

## 5. New Business

A. Ms. Morgan stated that the Mass Historical Conference Workshop for Development of Walking Tours will be in June. She stated that a good first candidate for a tour is South Grafton from Farnumsville to Wilkinsonville starting on Depot St. Further discussion was tabled until the July meeting, after the Walking Tours Development Workshop is attended.

B. House Rock / Shelter Rock -- Ann Morgan stated that someone came into the Municipal Center asking about the history of House Rock (a large rock) off of Fitzpatrick and that Sally Bridges is the person to ask. The visitor also asked about Shelter Rock and was it on the Churchill property off of Merriam, or was it on North St. on the north side of the Mass Pike, as implied in F. C. Pierce's *History of Grafton, Worcester County, Massachusetts, from its early settlement by the Indians in 1647 to the present time, 1879: including the genealogies of seventy-nine of the older families*. Ann Morgan also indicated that a "Reconnaissance Survey" (circa 2000) or the Molly Sims map of Grafton may have the site marked.

C. Fountain in front of the Common – Robert Aberg brought up an interest heard from several people in town about the future of the "skinny" fountain that used to be on the Common. Ann Morgan stated that the fountain that used to be on the Common has been nearly completely restored and is at the fire station, restored by Mike Casey, and its future needs to be discussed.

D. Park benches – John Stephens stated that the Historical Commission bought several park benches eight years ago and that they have not been installed anywhere to anyone's knowledge. Donna Girouard will ask Dave Crouse if he knows their whereabouts.

## 6. Adjournment

Donna Girouard moved to adjourn the meeting, John Stephens seconded. Motion carried aye-5, nay-0. Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

### List of Documents Used:

1. web page including two maps:  
<https://sites.google.com/a/oldconnecticutpath.com/oldconnecticutpath/1-0-move/1-75-hassanamesit---grafton-massachusetts>

Minutes approved on: June 9, 2016

Submitted by Robert Aberg, Clerk, Grafton Historical Commission

