



TOWN CLERK

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MINUTES

Grafton Historical Commission
7:00 PM, May 14, 2015
Grafton Municipal Center, Finance Committee Meeting Room

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A regular meeting of the Grafton Historical Commission was held on May 14, 2015.

Members Present:

Ann Morgan, David Therrien, Robert Aberg, Donna Girouard, John Stephens,
Mark Fobert

1. Old Business

- A. Minutes – the minutes of April 9, 2015 were presented for review. Donna Girouard moved to accept the minutes, as amended. Dave Therrien seconded, the motion carried 5-0.
- B. Bills – no bills.
- C. Tercentenary Signs – Ann Morgan stated that the Historic District Commission will take up the location topic for the Hassanamesit sign in their May meeting. John Stephens indicated that Historic District Commission was thinking of putting it on the Common at the north end just east of the sidewalk. Dave Therrien recommended installing the sign in stone dust to prevent damage and allow for easy reinstallation when needed in the future. Ann Morgan stated that the Historical Commission should work more closely with the Historic District Commission to ensure full coordination on topics of local history.

2. New Business

- A. Historic Survey – Ann Morgan described the idea of a workshop for a scope of services for a new inventory with the aim of a CPC request. If a new historic inventory showed a loss of historic resources, it could bolster the case for future proposals such as a demolition delay by-law for historic inventory assets. John Stephens stated that the Massachusetts Historical Commission will have grants for this type of activity with a mid-December submission deadline. Chris Skelly

would know the particulars. Ann Morgan will call Chris or Michael Steinetz to find out more. John Stephens further stated that more houses and structures in town should now qualify as being historical since time has passed since the previous inventory.

- B. 114 Merriam Road – Ann Morgan noted that the west end of the property has more of a rubble pile than a stone wall. Towards the east end of the property, the stone wall is more defined. Ann Morgan, Mark Fobert and John Stephens recommended that the Historical Commission should recommend that development minimize disturbance of the walls in the plan and use the stones to re-establish the remaining wall. If site conditions are determined to be different from the plan as scoped in Note A of the plans on file with the Planning Board, any modifications to the plan would be required to come back to the Planning Board. John Stephens moved that Ann Morgan will draft a comment to this effect and submit. Rob Aberg seconded, the motion carried 6-0.
- C. Whitney Park Bridge – Rob Aberg moved that the chairman draft a general letter of support to look forward to working with any organization that will help with the preservation and restoration of the bridge. Donna Girouard seconded the motion, which carried 6-0.
- D. Scenic Roads – Donna Girouard asked if the Town Planner had done an official interpretation of the Scenic Road by-law. Ann Morgan said the topic is on the master to-do list, and that we would need to ask the Town Counsel.
- E. Oak Street Cemetery Inventory – Donna Girouard indicated that there never was an Eagle Scout project for this cemetery. John Stephens noted that detailed pictures were taken of significant headstones.
- F. Town Hall Vault Funds – John Stephens stated that the vault project's account was still active and appeared to have funds remaining that could be used for additional repairs to the vault. Mr. Stephens agreed to further investigate the detailed expenditures relating to public funding for this project.

3. Executive Session

None held.

4. Schedule Next Meeting

Rob Aberg moved to have the next meeting scheduled for June 16, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Donna Girouard seconded, the motion passed 6-0.

5. Adjournment

Rob Aberg moved to adjourn at 8:15 PM, seconded by John Stephens. Motion carried 6-0. Vice Chair adjourned meeting at 8:15 PM.

List of Documents Used:

- None

Minutes approved on: June 16, 2015 as amended

Submitted by Robert Aberg, Clerk, Grafton Historical Commission

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Aberg". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed name "Robert Aberg".