

Town of Fairhaven

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 05, 2021

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FAIRHAVEN.
MASS.

Present: Wayne Oliveira, Vicki Oliveira, Gary Lavalette MJ Carvalho, David Braga, John Medeiros, Selectman Keith Silvia.

Zoom: Suzan Galpin and Special Guest Vincent Coutu

Absent: Gail Isaksen, Kathryne Moniz

Chairman Oliveira called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm in the Banquet Room at Town Hall and via Zoom. All members observed Social Distancing rules.

Minutes

Ms. Carvalho made a motion to accept the minutes of April 7, 2021. Mr. Lavalette seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Roll Call vote: Mr. Oliveira in favor, Ms. Oliveira, Mr. Lavalette, Ms. Carvalho, Mr. Silvia in favor, Mr. Braga in favor, Ms. Galpin in favor, Mr. Medeiros in favor

Financial Report

The Chairman read the financial report. Money will be tight until the end of the fiscal year. Town Accountant transferred money between accounts due to unexpected repairs at the Academy.

Chairman's report

Mr. Oliveira read a letter from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding a historical anchor that has been discovered in New Bedford Harbor off the coast of Slocum Cove Marina. The Commission will put in a request for the anchor to be given to Fairhaven. The anchor is believed to be late 18th to early 19th century. The Commission discussed ideas and possible locations to display the anchor.

Mr. Medeiros made a motion accept the anchor from the EPA and to place the it at Cooke Memorial Park on the corner of Cooke Street and Pilgrim Avenue, at the west end of the garden. Ms. Carvalho seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Roll Call vote: Mr. Oliveira in favor, Ms. Oliveira, Mr. Lavalette, Ms. Carvalho, Mr. Silvia in favor, Mr. Braga in favor, Ms. Galpin in favor, Mr. Medeiros in favor

Mr. Oliveira told the Commission he appeared before the Finance Committee to discuss the Historic Street Lamp article for the up coming annual town meeting.

Mr. Oliveira reminded the commission that there will be a reorganization at the next Historical Commission meeting, if any members would like to assume leadership roles for the upcoming year.

Correspondence

Mr. Oliveira told the commission he has still not heard back from Mayor Mitchell regarding the historic plaque the city has that belongs the Fairhaven. Ms. Carvalho will try to reach out to someone in the city to seek further action.

Bills

Commission members signed the bills.

Academy Building

Mr. Oliveira updated the commission on the progress of the ramp project at the Academy. The architect has asked the contractor to re hang the door due to some safety concerns. The commission members discussed the painting and shingling of the exterior of the building as a future project.

Fire museum

Mr. Oliveira stated the Spring Street Fire Museum needs some repairs and upkeep on the shutters and the exterior of the building.

Fort Phoenix

Mr. Oliveira has stated the flag pole has been temporarily fixed. Mr. Oliveira thanked Matt Paulson for the donation of grass and fertilizer for the Fort.

Mr. Oliveira has requested the Department of Public Works not cut the grass at the Fort in order to let the grass have a chance to grow and spread.

Old Stone School House

Mr. Oliveira said that after town meeting when the Community Preservation funds are approved the work can begin at the Old Stone School House.

Demo Delay

Mr. Oliveira said 46 Sconticut Neck Road has been set for demolition. Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Lavalette, Ms. Oliveira and Planning Director Paul Foley did a walk through and determined there was no historical significance to stop the demolition. Mr. Oliveira has signed off on this with the building department.

House Plaque

No house plaques

New Business

Mr. Medeiros inquired on the status of the artificial turf field at Fairhaven High School. Mr. Oliveira stated he had a conversation with Brian Monroe, the Chairman of the school committee, and the school department would like to add restrooms to the southwest corner of the field, near the front on route 6. Mr. Oliveira attended a school committee meeting to express the commission's displeasure of the location of the restrooms. The commission members agreed they would like to watch this turf/restroom project as a historical point of view to ensure the best location is chosen. Mr. Braga stated at a recent Planning Board meeting, the turf project was discussed and the Planning Board did not like the location of the restrooms.

Mr. Oliveira will send a letter to the School Committee expressing the Historical Commissions thoughts on the location of the restrooms and will reach out the FHS alumni association for their thoughts.

Vincent Couto joined the meeting via Zoom as part of a merit badge requirement for boy scouts. The Commission wished him well with his project.

At 7:40 pm Ms. Oliveira made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Carvalho seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Roll Call vote: Mr. Oliveira in favor, Ms. Oliveira, Mr. Lavalette, Ms. Carvalho, Mr. Silvia in favor, Mr. Braga in favor, Ms. Galpin in favor, Mr. Medeiros in favor

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki Oliveira".

Vicki Oliveira
Recording Secretary
(Approved 06/02/2021)

