Town of Fairhaven

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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2021 SEP 23 A 10: 46

August 11, 2021

FAIRHAVEN. MASS.

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

Absent: John Medeiros, Gail Isaksen

Chairman Oliveira called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm in the Banquet Room at Town Hall and via Zoom. All members observed Social Distancing rules.

Minutes

Mr. Lavalette made a motion to accept the minutes of June 2, 2021. Ms. Carvalho seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Financial Report

The Chairman read the financial report.

Chairman's report

Mr. Oliveira provided and update on the missing bridge plaque on the route six overpass. Ms. Carvalho used her contacts and was able to locate the missing plaque. MASSDot will put the plaque back in its rightful place on the overpass.

Mr. Oliveira and Ms. Oliveira toured Rogers School with Rogers Reuse Committee members Sue Loo and Doug Brady. The Rogers Reuse Committee will be applying to place Rogers School on the National Historic Register and would like the support of the Historic Commission.

Ms. Oliveira made a motion to submit a letter of support for the application on the National Historic Register. Mr. Lavalette seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brady told the Board there will be a cleaning crew going to Rogers School to start cleaning out the building to provide more air circulation in order to help further preserve it.

Mr. Oliveira told the Commission he had a meeting with School officials to discuss the turf/restroom project. The Historical commission has not signed off on the permit because of the location of the new restrooms. As a recommending body to the Select Board, the Historical Commission has expressed its displeasure to the Select Board about this issue. The result of the meeting with the school officials will be to have screening around the restroom building to hide it from the view on Huttleston Avenue. The School Department will work with the Historical Commission to come up with an adequate type of screening.

Mr. Oliveira said the Board of Public Works has approved the anchor at Cooke Park. A small plaque will be placed at the anchor in memory of Captain Whitfield.

Mr. Oliveria told the Board member Suzan Galpin has resigned from the commission. Ms. Carvalho made a motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Galpin and move associate member David Braga to the vacant full-time position. Mr. Lavalette seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Oliveira said he has sent a letter to Northeast Maritime Academy (NMI) regarding the Nimrod Cannon and removing it from the school. NMI has been generous to have housed the Nimrod Cannon in the school lobby in the solution until it was ready to be displayed.

Bills

The members signed the Commission's monthly bills.

Academy Building

Mr. Oliveira said the contractor is ready to do the final walk through and make the punch list. The Architect omitted the striping in the parking lot and the signage for the handicap space, so volunteers will do the striping due to the high cost of adding that into the project.

The CPC funds for the front door have been made available, Mr. Oliveira will speak to the architect about having the scope of work put out to bid. Mr. Oliveira will seek authorization from Town Administrator to put this out locally because this has been put out two times already with no responses.

Fire museum

The Fire Museum on Spring Street had a small rodent issue. A neighbor reported seeing rodents entering the building. Mr. Oliveira met with Profishant and they will be doing quarterly checks and set traps. Mr. Oliveira stated the neighbor was generous to go and weed whack the cobblestones in the front.

Fort Phoenix

Mr. Medeiros has spoken to a company can fabricate the flag pole to replace the broken parts. Mr. Oliveira said the work will begin in the fall once the tourist season is over and the activity at the Fort is minimal.

Old Stone School House

Mr. Oliveira said he should be getting an updated quote from Cotrill Brothers and would like to see this project start in the fall.

House Plaque

No house plaques at this time.

Demo Delay

Mr. Oliveira said there could be a potential demo delay at 27 Fort Street, but nothing has been submitted so far. Because of the location of this property; this could signal a demo delay hearing.

New Business

Members discussed the street lamp idea around the town hall property. The commission would still like to see this project happen in the future.

Ms. Carvalho made a motion at 7:46 to adjourn. Mr. Lavalette seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Vicki Oliveira

Recording Secretary