

# Town of Fairhaven

## HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 6, 2021

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FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

**Present:** Wayne Oliveira, Vicki Oliveira, Gary Lavalette, MJ Carvalho, Mike Kelly, David Braga, John Medeiros, Natalie Mello and Selectman Keith Silva.

**Absent:** Gail Isaksen

**Also Present:** Robert Demanche via zoom

Chairman Oliveira called the meeting to order at 6:34 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 September 8, 2021. Ms. Carvalho seconded. Vote was unanimous.

### Financial Report

The Chairman read the financial report.

### Chairman's report

The Commission observed a moment of silence for John Rogers, Jr. who passed away a few weeks ago. Mr. Rogers was on many town committees and oversaw the antique fire trucks for the town.

Mr. Oliveira stated that he has made several attempts to reach Northeast Maritime President Eric Dawicki in regards to the Nimrod Cannon with no response. Mr. Oliveira will take this up with the interim Town Administrator Wendy Graves, the Select Board and possibly town counsel.

Mr. Lavalette gave a report as the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) liaison for the Historical Commission. Mr. Lavalette said there are two applications currently before CPC, one for Pickle Ball courts and the other for the BMX pump track at Macomber Park. Mr. Lavalette said he will bring the CPC projects before the Commission to gain all the members input.

### Correspondence

No correspondence this month.

### Bills

The members signed the Commission's monthly bills.

### Academy Building

Mr. Oliveira said he is still working with the contractor on the punch list but is hoping to finish this project soon. Mr. Lavalette said there is some curbing that still needs to be moved.

### **Fire museum**

Mr. Oliveira said he is still currently seeking quotes to submit for CPC but contractors are not returning phone calls.

### **Fort Phoenix**

Mr. Oliveira said the flagpole is out for repairs. Thank you to Nick Costa for the use of his bucket truck and his time to help remove the top of the cap, pulley and ball on the flagpole. Mr. Lavalette has a donor who is willing to pay for the repairs and will reach out.

### **Old Stone School House**

Mr. Oliveira said the renovations are still pending because the contractor is waiting for the costs of materials to come down. Mr. Oliveira will reach out to the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School carpentry students fabricate a new fence.

### **House Plaque**

Mr. Robert Demanche met with the Commission regarding the house plaque for 80 Adams Street. Ms. Carvalho reviewed the application and found it to be complete. The Commission agreed the plaque will read:

"Built by Nathaniel Freeman Benson 1852."

### **Demo Delay**

Ms. Oliveira told the commission; the Building Commissioner has stated there will be a demo permit for 27 Fort Street. Mr. Oliveira will reach out to the Building Commissioner for more information.

### **New Business**

Mr. Oliveira updated the commission on recent events that have taken place regarding the Town Hall Street Lamp project. Selectman Silvia has secured six donors to pay for the street lamps but there has been some kickback from the Office of Tourism Director on the Town's social media page regarding the efforts and the project. Mr. Oliveira said he is disappointed that a Town Department Head would say disparaging remarks against a town committee. The Members agreed this project is to better the look of the town and the reason it was voted against at Town Meeting was because of the funding. Members discussed ways to educate the public on this project with out deliberating on social media.

The Commission welcomed new member Natalie Mello.

Ms. Carvalho made a motion at 7:25 to adjourn. Mr. Lavalette seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,



Vicki Oliveira  
Recording Secretary  
(Approved 11/10/2021)