

**Town of Fairhaven
HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

December 1, 2021

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FAIRHAVEN,
MASS.

Present: Wayne Oliveira, Vicki Oliveira David Braga, John Medeiros, Mike Kelly, MJ Carvalho, Natali Mello, Selectman Keith Silvia,

Also Present: Planning Director Paul Foley joined the meeting at 6:52 pm

Present via Zoom: Gary Lavalette

Chairman Oliveira called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm in the Banquet Room at Town Hall and via Zoom. All members observed Social Distancing rules.

Minutes

Ms. Mello made a motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2021. Mr. Braga seconded. Vote carried.

Roll call vote: Wayne Oliveira in favor, Mike Kelly in favor, MJ Carvalho abstained, David Braga in favor, John Medeiros in favor, Keith Silvia in favor, Gary Lavalette in favor.

Financial Report

Chairman Oliveira reviewed the financial report with the commission

Chairman's Report

Chairman Oliveira has spoken to the Contactor, Architect and Town Counsel regarding the ADA ramp at the back of the Academy Building. There has been a claim put in with the contractor to have the issues fixed and Mr. Oliveira will be looking to hire another contractor to make the corrections. Town Counsel will be working on this issue.

Committee Liaison Report

Ms. Carvalho said the Lagoa Friendship Pact Committee will meet again in February.

Mr. Lavalette said the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) met recently to review the applications for FY23. The Whitfield Manjiro House has put in an application to CPC.

Correspondence

Mr. Oliveira said the Rogers Reuse Committee has heard back from the Mass Historical Commission regarding the National historic register application and will need to submit more information in order for it to be accepted.

Commission Bills

Commission members signed this month's bills

Academy

Mr. Oliveira said he is trying to find a contractor to do the work on the front entrance of the Academy. Mr. Oliveira stated the light in the front was out because someone had shut off the switch. Mr. Oliveira also reset the accent lights to accommodate daylight savings time.

Fire Museum

There was nothing to report for the Washington Street Firehouse.

Mr. Oliveira has put in a CPC application for the Spring Street Firehouse.

Fort Phoenix

Mr. Oliveira said the American Flag on the main pole is tattered and will be replaced. The parking lot flagpole will have no flag for the winter. Mr. Oliveira has contacted the Department of Environmental management regarding locking the restrooms on the State side and locking the gate at night. The Town side gate gets locked at 10 pm.

Old Stone School House

Mr. Oliveira said the contractor is still waiting for the cost of materials to come down before they begin the work.

Street Lamps

Mr. Oliveira showed photos from the turn of the century that had gas lamps on Center Street; one on the corner of Center Street and Middle Street and the other in front of the: former Methodist Church on the corner of Center Street and Walnut Street. Mr. Oliveira will continue to do some research on this.

House Plaque

Mr. Oliveira said that the owners of 34 William Street have applied for a house plaque. Commission members reviewed the application and discussed the dates for the plaque.

Mr. Oliveira made a motion to approve the house plaque for 34 William Street to read "John D. Taber, Captain of the Martha, 1831." Ms. Carvalho second. Vote was unanimous.

Roll call vote: Wayne Oliveira in favor, Mike Kelly in favor, MJ Carvalho in favor, David Braga in favor, John Medeiros in favor, Keith Silvia in favor, Gary Lavalette in favor.

Demo Delay- 27 Fort Street

The public hearing for 27 Fort Street continued from the meeting on November 10, 2021. Commission members had a chance to visit the property along with the Building Commissioner and the Planning Director. Members agreed there was not any historical or architectural value to the home left but are concerned about the new building and would like to make sure there is some effort made to keep in line with the other houses in the neighborhood.

Mr. Foley discussed adding to the current bylaw to include some criteria be added for the commission to have a voice in what will be built once a home is demolished.

Members felt they would like to proceed cautiously before making a final decision.

The members discussed the by law and ways to make it better.

Mr. Oliveira will reach out to Town Counsel to determine if the commission can negotiate on the new structure.

Ms. Mello made a motion to continue the public hearing for 27 Fort Street to gain more information in order to make a sufficient decision. Ms. Carvalho seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Roll call vote: Wayne Oliveira in favor, Mike Kelly in favor, MJ Carvalho in favor, David Braga in favor, John Medeiros in favor, Keith Silvia in favor, Gary Lavalette in favor.

New Business

Mr. Foley said he has some information regarding classes offered by the Mass. Historical Commission.

Mr. Lavalette has sent information to the architect.

Mr. Braga inquired if the Commission would be able to sell items to raise money for the Street Lamps. Mr. Oliveira will look into this.

Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Foley, Mr. Osuch, Mr. Fosith and Mr. Fournier will meet to discuss what needs to be done at town hall for improvements.

Mr. Oliveira said he spoke to Chuck Cromwell about the Nimrod and is waiting to hear back if there was any success in reaching Mr. Dawicki. Mr. Oliveira has spoken to town counsel who will be willing to send a letter if need be.

Mr. Oliveira wished everyone "Happy Holidays"

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

Roll call vote: Wayne Oliveira in favor, Mike Kelly in favor, MJ Carvalho in favor, David Braga in favor, John Medeiros in favor, Keith Silvia in favor, Gary Lavallette in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Vicki Oliveira
Recording Secretary
(approved 1-5-2022)

