

**Historical Commission
September 7 2022**

Present: Wayne Oliveira, Gary Lavalette, Michael Kelly, Natalie Mello, John Medeiros,
MJ Carvalho and Selectman Keith Silvia
Absent: David Braga and Gail Isakesen

Mr. Oliveira opened the meeting at 6:40 pm. at the Fairhaven Academy Building. Members met at this location to review the ADA changes to the building. Mr. Oliveira thanked Mr. Don Figureido for his donation of the granite hitching post that has been placed at the end of the back door ramp. They also thanked Mr. Leon Couture for his donation of time for the installation of the post.

Mr. Braga will be missing the next few meetings due to his new school schedule.

Minutes

Mr. Lavalette made a motion to approve the minutes of August 3, 2022. Seconded. Ms. Mello Vote carried.

Financial Report

Mr. Oliveira reviewed the FY23 financial amounts for the Commission and the up to date balances remaining in each account.

Signing of the Bills

Members signed the monthly commission's bills.

Correspondence

Chairman Oliveira read a letter from member Vicki Oliveira stating that she is resigning from her position on the Historical Commission after more than 10 years due to health issues. Mr. Oliveira will check with the Town Clerk to see who is the next associate member to move up to the full time member position.

Chairman's Report

Chairman reported this month and next month the commission will have to meet at an alternate location from Town Hall.

Discussion ensued over the changes at Town Hall and the ADA moves that are proposed by the Town Administrator. Members feel they should be involved in the proposed moves as it involves the historical aspect of the building and would like to see an architect with historical background involved in the proposals.

Academy

The ramp project has finally been completed. The front door is getting shaky and Mr. Oliveira is looking into having the repairs made sooner than later until the front can be renovated to avoid any further damage. Mr. Oliveira is getting estimates on having the building painted but would

like to see the clapboards and shingles put back on like it was originally and this will be less maintenance in the future.

Fire Museum

Mr. Oliveira will have a power washer come in to wash the buildings and prep them ready for painting. The Sheriff's department will be doing some interior painting of the Fire Museum.

Spring Street Firehouse

Signature signs is working on the overhead sign, repairing the historical plaque and making a memorial sign for John Rogers.

Fort Phoenix

The flag has been changed at the Fort to replace the frayed one. The mounds on the parapet will need to be added to. Mr. Medeiros will be putting together a calendar for the military flags to be placed at the Fort and will submit a letter to the Select Board for approval.

Old Stone School House

The paint has faded; the Commission discussed the color of the building.

Street Lamp Project

Mr. Oliveira, Mr. Isaksen and Mr. Silvia are hopeful to start this project now that the Voke students are back in school.

Melville Sign/Moby Dick Trail Update

Mr. Kelly updated the Commission regarding the Melville sign. Mr. Kelly spoke to the curator at the Whaling Museum and was given information on Melville's departure from Fairhaven. Mr. Kelly is working on getting the signs put back up and to create the story of Melville for the public to enjoy.

Mr. Kelly is still working on the Moby Dick trail signs. After a discussion with Tourism Director Chris Richard, there may be another direction to go on for the signs and not just for Moby Dick but to add more places to the trail and to create a self guided tour for people.

Committee Liaison

Mr. Lavalette said the Community Preservation Commission (CPC) is now accepting applications for next year's projects. Mr. Oliveira will speak with the Planning Director Paul Foley for clarification about what can be submitted for projects.

Ms. Carvalho said the Lagoa traveling photo display was very successful in Fairhaven and the committee has not met recently. Ms. Carvalho said Lagoa Mayor Cristina Calisto met at Town Hall with the Select Board and the Town Administrator in July.

House Plaques

There are no house plaques at this time. The house plaque on Oxford Street is still pending.

Demo Delay

Mr. Oliveira said 15 Cherry Street is doing some demolition but only a portion of the house but not the whole house. Mr. Oliveira asked the Commission members to go by and look at the house to see what the proposed project will be.

New Business

Mr. Medeiros said the Fairhaven Lion's Club has cleaned the inside of the Old Stone School House. Mr. Oliveira thanked the Lion's Club for all their hard work and efforts; last year they did a complete clean up of the outside of the Old Stone School House. Commission members discussed opening the building more to the public as it had been done in the past.

Mr. Lavalette said the Salvation Army will be doing a cleanup of Veteran's Park on September 25, 2022.

Doug Brady said the Rogers School meets the criteria to be placed on the Mass. Historical Register to protect and preserve the building . Mr. Brady thanked Sue Loo for all her hard work on this project.

Ms. Mello made a motion to support the efforts to proceed forward for step 2 for the Mass Historical Register application. Mr. Lavallette seconded. Vote passed.

Mr. Brady said there will be a cleanup of Rogers School grounds on October 1, 2022 at 10:00 am.

Old Business

Nothing to report

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, the location is to be determined.

Mr. Medeiros made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Mello. Vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Oliveira
Historical Commission Chairman