

## Historical Commission

### Minutes April 5, 2023

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK  
RCUD 2023 MAY 11 PM 2:26

**Present:** Wayne Oliveira, John Medeiros, Natalie Mello (remote), David Braga, Gary Lavalette, Michael Kelly, Keith Silvia

**Absent:** Gail Isaksen, MJ Carvalho

Chair Oliveira opened the meeting at 6:32 pm.

#### Minutes

Mr. Lavalette made a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2023

Seconded. Mr. Medeiros Vote carried.

#### Financial Report

Mr. Oliveira reviewed the FY23 financial amounts for the Commission and the up-to-date balances remaining in each account. Total balance in all categories: \$11,916.93

#### Signing of the Bills

Members signed the monthly commission's bills for Eversource, Fairhaven Alarm and Granite City Electric Total of bills \$804.88

#### Correspondence

Chair Oliveira read a letter from The Mass. Secretary of State's Office notifying us that the Oxford Residence/Old Oxford School has been accepted to the National Register of Historic Places.

Also received a letter from Sue Loo of the Rogers Reuse Committee stating that they have been approved to move to the next step in their application to the National Register of Historic Places and will be hiring a company to complete the application process of their behalf. Letter is placed on file.

#### Chair Report

Made the Commission members aware of the following issues:

1. The budget process is in full swing and the Selectboard and the Finance Committee and been reviewing all budget requests.
2. Flag pole at Fort Phoenix has been repaired thanks to the use of the Fire Dept's bucket truck and Chief Correia who went up and helped repair the pulley and new rope. Flag is now flying again.
3. The antique counter has been moved from the current Selectboard office to the current Collector's Office. It was noted that there is now a large crack across the front of the cabinet. The custodian has been asked to fix it. The Commission was never notified of the move date nor was it notified even after the move was made.

#### Academy

The front door project was looked at by Valois & Co. and we are awaiting a quote. Noted that we will be looking over the building to see what work needs to be done in this current budget. The railing on the fire escape needs to be repaired as noted in a past fire inspection. Gary will try to line up a welder.

### **Fire Museum**

Washington St. Firehouse: Mr. Braga- Nothing to report. He will keep an eye on the property for work that needs to be done in the Spring and possibly an interior clean-up.

Spring St. Mr. Oliveira reported that inside preparation for displays is ongoing by the Fairhaven Protecting Society members who run the antique fire trucks. The back door of that building also need to be replaced. The current door is rotted at the bottom and is difficult to secure.

### **Fort Phoenix**

Nothing new to report. The US flag is repaired. We will look into adding more dirt to the top of the parapet wall and reshape the grassy mounds along with reseeding.

The Commission reviewed a draft document from the Tourism office pertaining to rules for reenacting groups using Fort Phoenix. Discussion followed and the following suggestions were made to the document.

1. Questioned the applications where it lists "NO tents" tents are obviously used during these events.
2. Suggested that the hours of operation be from 10a daily and not 9am.
3. Under firearms- Make sure that it specifies "No projectiles will be used at any time"
4. Suggest that the groups post a schedule of musket and cannon firing be adhered to at 1-hour intervals and not just random firing.

### **Old Stone School House**

Mr. Medeiros is working on guides to staff the Schoolhouse in the summer months and is working with the COA and Tourism Office to have senior residents work off the time with tax credits. Motion to support the efforts to secure volunteers under the senior work off program. Mr. Medeiros 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Mello Vote carries unanimous. Chair will notify the TA of our intentions to sponsor this project.

### **Street Lamp Project**

Mr. Nils Isaksen gave an update on the project which will begin in the next week by installing the concrete foundations and running underground conduit to each foundation.

### **Committee Liaison**

Mr. Lavalette: CPC is wrapping up for this season but is dealing with issues at the Manjuro House and Fairhaven High School.

### **House Plaques**

None

### **Demo Delay**

None reported.

### **New Business**

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Braga 2<sup>nd</sup> Ms. Mello Vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Oliveira  
Historical Commission Chair