

**Fairhaven Historical Commission
Minutes
October 4, 2023**

Present: Wayne Oliveira, MJ Carvalho, Rick Martin, Natalie Mello, Keith Silvia (Selectboard Liaison)
via Zoom: Cam Durant (Staff Liaison)
Absent: Michael Kelly

Meeting called to order 6:30pm.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from August 2, 2023 (MJ Carvalho, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: See attached Budget Balance Sheet.

Commission Bills: Commissioners signed several bills.

Reorganization of the Commission: Motion to elect Michael Kelly as Vice-Chair for the Commission. (N. Mello, MJ Carvalho) Motion passed unanimously.

Additional Administrator to Historical Commission and Old Stone School Facebook Pages: Motion made to add Michael Kelly as an administrator to both pages. (N. Mello, MJ Carvalho) Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion on proposed sign and placement of Cooke Park: Ms. Karen Vilandry gave a 5-minute presentation on the Hands Across the River Coalition proposal for signage and placement. After Commission discussion and comments from the public a motion was made (N. Mello, MJ Carvalho) approving the following wording:

*Cooke Memorial Park
Historic Oxford Village Burial Hill
Est. mid to late 1600s*

Final resting place for many of Fairhaven's earliest settlers in marked and unmarked graves

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made to place the sign along Pilgrim Ave, facing south, 8' back from the curb in the middle of the park. (MJ Carvalho, N. Mello) Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Report: A safe that was in the Selectboard Office in Town Hall was sold on a government surplus site for \$25.00. The Chair asked Selectboard Liaison Silvia to investigate the matter as to why the Commission was not notified.

Academy Building: Contractor secured: RP Valois from Dartmouth. Front door work to begin in October.

Fire Museum:

- Washington Street – Michael Kelly was assigned to this property.
- Spring Street – Nothing to report.

Fort Phoenix: Natalie Mello was assigned to this property.

Old Stone Schoolhouse: The site has been open to the public to great excitement.

Committee Reports:

- CPC: N. Mello reported that there was a healthy response to the call for proposals by the CPC. Deliberations will begin shortly. She also asked for clarity on the status of some CPC funded projects. She will report that information back to the CPC.
- Lagoa Committee: MJ Carvalho reported that photos of the Feast and Parade were shared with the city of Lagoa on Sao Miguel.

(N. Mello left the meeting at 7:43, Chair Oliveira kept minutes for the remainder of the meeting.)

Streetlamp Project: Nils Isaksen stated that the project is complete! Some minor work remains but everything else has been connected and the lights are working.

Commission members talked about a date to have an official lighting ceremony. The date of Oct. 17 at 6pm was agreed upon if everyone involved could make it. Mr. Silvia will check with one of the large donors to see if that date is okay as she will be asked to flip the switch to energize the lights at the ceremony. The Chair will send out invitations to all once the date is confirmed.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Motion to Adjourn at 7:50pm (MJ Carvalho, R. Martin). Motion passed unanimously.



TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

Historical Commission

Budget Balances

Name	Total
Historical Commission	\$ 390.44
Academy Building	\$ 6,325.20
Fire Museum	\$ 1,381.93
Fort Phoenix	\$ 2,994.26
Old Stone School house on North Street	\$ 800.00
Manjiro House	\$ 3,000.00
Antique Fire Trucks	\$ 1,200.00
Grand total	<hr/> \$ 16,091.83

Balance as of 10/3/2023