

Fairhaven Historical Commission  
Minutes  
February 7, 2024

**Present:** Wayne Oliveira, Nate Bekemeier, Michael Kelly, Rick Martin, Natalie Mello, Cam Durant (Staff Liaison)  
**Absent:** Keith Silvia (Selectboard Liaison),

**Meeting called to order 6:36pm.**

**Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from January 3, 2024 (R Martin, M Kelly). Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** See attached Budget Balance Sheet.

**Commission Bills:**

- Motion to approve payment of invoices to Eversource, Ricky's Hardware, O'Reilly Auto Parts, NAPA Auto Parts totaling \$962.97 (R Martin, N Mello). Motion passed unanimously.

**Chair Report:**

- Update on the removal of the unofficial memorial at Fort Phoenix to be done by the DPW.
- Laminate flooring was added to the Select Board office. This Commission was never consulted nor informed of this decision.
- Conflict of Interest Training required by the Commonwealth is due by Feb 29, 2024.
- Sign for Cooke Memorial Park is completed. Will be installed when weather allows.
- MJ Carvalho has resigned her position on the Commission effective 2/2/24. We thank her for her service to the Commission and the Town.
- Rolltop oak desk is in the basement of Townhall. W Oliveira has requested that we move it to the Spring St Fire House. Awaiting response.

**Properties update:**

- **Academy Building:** Front door work is in progress. There is a plan to rehab the entire front façade to include mounting the carriage lights.
- **Fire Museums:**
  - Washington Street – No updates
  - Spring Street – Looking for period appropriate display case.
- **Fort Phoenix:** Flag is replaced as soon as possible after windstorms. Will work with Veterans' Services Agent (Mike Jenney) to coordinate replacement of flags.
- **Old Stone Schoolhouse:** Needs gutters cleaned and downspouts repaired.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

- M Kelly attended Mass Historical Commission Grant Workshop via zoom. If we were to succeed in securing a grant, it would match ½ the cost of the project. Discussion around whether to apply for this year's round to cedar shingle three walls of the Academy Building and replace the clapboard on the front. The deadline for the grant is March 15, 2024. Should coincide with submitting a warrant to Town Meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

- CPC: No update at this time.
- Lagoa Committee: With the resignation of MJ Carvalho, this liaison position will remain in a holding pattern.

**Commission Member Items:** M. Kelly will be attending a workshop via zoom offered by the Mass. Historical Commission on applying for grants from the Mass Preservation Projects Fund.

**Public Comment:** G. Lavalette reported that the field gun wheels are almost done and are in his garage; the DPW has not yet addressed the flooding issue in the town's parking lot at the Fort; DPW will do the parking at the Veterans' Memorial Park; and he has the formula for the whitewash needed for spring whitewash at the Fort.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:30pm

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:20pm** (N. Mello, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.



## TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

### Historical Commission

#### Budget Balances

Name	Total
Historical Commission	\$ 175.44
Academy Building	\$ 3,732.14
Fire Museum	\$ 653.25
Fort Phoenix	\$ 2,574.87
Old Stone School house on North Street	\$ 800.00
Manjiro House	\$ 3,000.00
Antique Fire Trucks	\$ 279.76

**Grand total** \$ 11,215.46

Historical Commission Gift Account	\$1,708.42
Fort Phoenix Gift Account	\$ 569.45
Fort Restitution Account	\$ 0.0

Balance as of 2/6/2024