

Fairhaven Historical Commission  
Minutes  
May 8, 2024

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

**Present via Zoom:** Nicole Arruda

**Absent:** Beth Luey

**Meeting called to order 6:36pm by Wayne Oliveira, Chair.**

**Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from April 3, 2024 after correcting one typo (M Kelly, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** See attached Budget Balance Sheet as of 5/7/24.

**Commission Bills:**

- Motion to approve payment of invoices to Eversource (\$414.32), Tom's Home Improvement (\$375.00), Napa Auto (97.11), Rocky's Hardware (\$31.53) (N Mello, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

**Chair Report:**

- Recap of informational tour with the Tree Warden on May 2<sup>nd</sup> to review master plan for tree maintenance in the center of town.
- The sign at Cooke Memorial Park is finally in the correct place. Motion to reorganize the Commission on Monday May 13 at 1:00pm (N Mello, M Kelly). Motion passed unanimously.
- Town Meeting approved the town budget for FY 24-25. Historical Commission budget set at \$15,800.

**Properties update:**

- **Academy Building:** Leaky roof fixed by addressing the caps and flashing. Front door is almost complete – contractor must replace broken fan glass. There is a possible rodent issue in the basement. Key box to be installed at back door and bulkhead to be painted.
- **Fire Museums:**
  - Washington Street – No updates
  - Spring Street – No updates.
- **Fort Phoenix:** Makeshift memorial at the Fort was removed by DPW. Flag currently in good shape. Flags are replaced as soon as possible after windstorms. Whose responsibility is it to replace the flags? Veterans' Services Agent (Mike Jenney) or the Commission.
- **Old Stone Schoolhouse:** Opening day (April 22) saw 19 visitors. School group visit on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve and hire Next Level Gutters for the amount of \$400 to address the gutters and downspout (M Kelly, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

- Bell Committee update by Doug Brady, Bell Committee member. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Bell Committee to paint the housing for the Paul Revere bell option #2 (cc-212). (N Mello, M Kelly). Motion passed unanimously.
- Paint quotes for work on the front façade of the Academy Building. After review of all quotes submitted, motion made to utilize a combination of remaining accounts in the Commission's budget to hire and pay CertaPro of Barnstable \$3561.99 to paint the front clapboards and all window trim (N. Mello, M Kelly). Motion passed unanimously.
- No action taken on the discussion around landscaping the front of the Academy Building. Best to wait until after the painting is done.
- Motion made to purchase a new, period appropriate mailbox for the Academy Building to be mounted on a post by the front door (N Bekemeier, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.
- Inquiry made by N Mello as to whether the Commission had ever formally voted on painting the front of the Academy Building and shingling the other three sides. No motion was found.

**Committee Report:**

- Community Preservation Committee's recommended allocations was passed by Town Meeting. See April 3, 2024 minutes for details.

**Commission Member Items:**

- Inquiry by M Kelly as to the status of the Nimrod Cannon that is still at the Northeast Maritime Institute. W Oliveira reported that the cannon was loaned to Fairhaven by the New Bedford Whaling Museum, therefore it is not the responsibility of the town or the Commission to retrieve it.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Next meeting:** Monday, May 13, 2024 at 1:00pm

**Regularly scheduled meeting:** June 5, 2024

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:54pm** (N Mello, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.



## TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

### Historical Commission

#### Budget Balances

<b>Name</b>	<b>Total</b>	
Historical Commission	\$	123.96
Academy Building	\$	2,038.76
Fire Museum	\$	359.96
Fort Phoenix	\$	1,594.01
Old Stone School house on North Street	\$	800.00
Manjiro House	\$	3,000.00
Antique Fire Trucks	\$	182.65
	<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 8,099.34</b>

Historical Commission Gift Account \$1,708.42

Fort Phoenix Gift Account \$ 569.45

Fort Restitution Account \$ 0.0