

Fairhaven Historical Commission  
Minutes  
July 17, 2024

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK  
ROUD 2024 DEC 3 AM 11:42

**Present:** Nate Bekemeier, Michael Kelly, Beth Luey, Rick Martin

**Present via Zoom:** Natalie Mello

**Absent:** Nicole Arruda, Wayne Oliveira, Cam Durant (Staff Liaison), Keith Silvia (Select Board Liaison)

**Meeting called to order 6:37pm by Michael Kelly, Chair.**

**Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes from June 12, 2024 (R Martin, B Luey). Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** See attached Budget Balance Sheets as of 7/29/24. (Top is for 2024, bottom is for 2025)

**Commission Bills:**

- Motion to approve payment of invoices to Eversource (\$199.17) to close out fiscal 2024 (B Luey, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

**Chair Report:**

- Update on meeting with Town Administrator, A. Lopes. The new position of Community Development Coordinator will not be housed in the Academy Building, but the Fairhaven IT Department may move there. This would mean there is a presence in the building at least five days a week. No heavy equipment will be part of that office – two people and some computers. The Commission will discuss this proposal more fully at the next meeting.
- Historic properties oversight – W Oliveira has requested to step down from being responsible for the Academy Building. Motion to appoint B Luey and N Bekemeier to share responsibility for the Academy Building (N Mello, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

**Properties update:**

- **Academy Building:** It has been determined that the roof leak is due to wind from the southwest lifting shingles allowing water to seep in. Adhesives will be applied.
- **Fire Museums:**
  - Washington Street – No update.
  - Spring Street – No update.
- **Fort Phoenix:** - No update.
- **Old Stone Schoolhouse:** On July 14 there were 26 visitors. R Martin volunteered to cover the Schoolhouse on July 27 11:00am to 2:00pm.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

- Director of Veteran Services, M Jenney, attended the meeting and indicated his desire to be involved in replacing damaged flags and helping maintain Fort Phoenix. Motion to work closely with Veteran Services for flag replacement at Fort Phoenix (N Bekemeier, N Mello). Motion passed unanimously. Motion to work closely with Veteran Services on maintenance at Fort Phoenix (B Luey, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.
- M Kelly to investigate the whereabouts of any town owned property in the hands of private citizens.
- M Kelly to meet with the Director of the Whaling Museum regarding the status of the Nimrod cannon which was loaned to the Town of Fairhaven for display.

**Committee Report:**

- Community Preservation Committee – Next meeting July 31, 2024.

**Commission Member Items:**

- R Martin met with Violet Hurst, Millicent Library Archivist, to review expired documents. Those that are of no interest will be shredded. All House Plaque research will be saved, although there are no records pre 1970. R Martin will go through the records to create an index of properties.

**Public Comment:** None

**Regularly scheduled meeting:** August 7, 2024

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:21pm** (N Mello, R Martin). Motion passed unanimously.

2024



## TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

### Historical Commission Budget Balances

Name	Total
Historical Commission	\$ 123.96
Academy Building	\$ (3,038.37)
Fire Museum	\$ 71.51
Fort Phoenix	\$ 1,358.78
Old Stone School house on North Street	\$ 350.00
Manjiro House	\$ 3,000.00
Antique Fire Trucks	\$ (128.89)
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 1,736.99</b>

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

2025



## TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

### Historical Commission Budget Balances

Name	Total
Historical Commission	\$ 500.00
Academy Building	\$ 7,500.00
Fire Museum	\$ 2,000.00
Fort Phoenix	\$ 3,500.00
Old Stone School house on North Street	\$ 100.00
Manjiro House	\$ 1,000.00
Antique Fire Trucks	\$ 1,200.00
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>\$ 15,800.00</b>

Historical Commission Gift Account	\$
Fort Gift Account	\$
Fort Restitution Account	\$