

Fairhaven Historical Commission
Minutes
November 6, 2024

Present: Nate Bekemeier, Michael Kelly, Beth Luey, Rick Martin, Natalie Mello, Keith Silvia (Select Board Liaison)

Absent: Nicole Arruda, Wayne Oliveira

Meeting called to order 5:33pm by Michael Kelly, Chair.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes as amended from September 4, 2024 (B Luey, N Bekemeier). Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: See attached 2025 Budget Balance Sheet as of November 6, 2024.

Commission Bills:

- Motion to approve payment of invoices to Eversource, Profishant, NAPA, Alert 360 and Fairhaven Alarms for a total of \$1031.85 (N. Mello, N. Bekemeier). Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Report:

- Update on Selectboard presentation on the use of town properties. There will be an application process that would provide access to properties managed by the Commission, including a lease for the Historical Society for use of the Academy Building.
- Update on Oxford School weathervane – this was deemed surplus by the Selectboard and as such was given to members of the NFIA.
- CPC application for the Academy Building was submitted to re-side three exterior walls, make the back door and bathroom ADA compliant.

Properties update:

- **Academy Building:** N/A
- **Fire Museums:**
 - Washington Street – The building was cleaned out well. The firetruck is back in there. Also a box of badges – would be good to display these and know who they belonged to.
 - Spring Street – N/A
- **Fort Phoenix:** The flag is being replaced as needed by the Veterans Agent. Work on the various projects will commence after the Veterans Day Parade on November 11th.
- **Old Stone Schoolhouse:** The site will be open for the final time this season on Saturday November 9th. There has been a total of 335 visitors this season – up 100+ from last season. There were two organized field trips to the school as well.

Discussion/Action Items:

1. Nils Isakson presented the Commission with a sample of the plaques that will be placed at the base of each streetlight indicating who sponsored that streetlamp. He also presented an invoice for \$1050. to the Commission to be paid from the Commission Gift Account. He would also like to continue this project to Phase II with the installation of 9 more streetlamps (6 of which are already sponsored). All labor is donated, and the FIA did contribute money to Phase I. The cost to sponsor a streetlamp is \$5500 per lamp. Interested parties should contact either the Commission or the Fairhaven Improvement Association.
Motion to issue a letter of support for Phase II of the lighting project to the Selectboard (N. Mello, B. Luey). Motion passed unanimously.
2. Alyssa Botelho has been named the new Liaison Officer for this Commission. She cannot attend on Wednesday nights.
Motion to change regular meeting times to the first Tuesday evenings of the month at 6:30pm (N. Mello, N. Bekemeier). Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Report:

- Community Preservation Committee – Next meeting November 20, 2024 – Public Hearing.

Public Comment:

- None.

Regularly scheduled meeting: December 3, 2024

Motion to Adjourn at 6:07 (N. Mello, N. Bekemeier). Motion passed unanimously.



TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

Historical Commission

Budget Balances

Name	Total
Historical Commission	\$ 500.00
Academy Building	\$ 6,736.70
Fire Museum	\$ 1,478.30
Fort Phoenix	\$ 3,258.04
Old Stone School house on North Street	\$ 100.00
Manjiro House	\$ 1,000.00
Antique Fire Trucks	\$ 1,081.92

Grand total \$ **14,154.96**

Historical Commission Gift Account	\$ 2,208
Fort Gift Account	\$ 569.45
Fort Restitution Account	\$ 0