

Fairhaven Historical Commission
Minutes

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 MAR 23 PM5:18

February 3, 2026

Present: Members: Rick Martin (chair), Beth Luey (vice-chair), Eleanor Chew (secretary), Nick Jones, Alex Kuechler, Doug Brady. Alternates: Brian Messier and Nils Isaksen. Natalie Mello (Select Board Liaison)
ZOOM: Shayna Jones and Matt Paulson
Guests at Town Hall: None
ALL votes were done by roll call vote

1. **Meeting called to order:** by Rick Martin, Chair with the Pledge of Allegiance , and attendance at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes for January were approved as amended. (E. Chew/ A. Kuechler). The motion passed unanimously
3. **Financial Report:** Motion to approve payment of invoices as presented. The motion passed unanimously. (A. Kuechler/ E. Chew). The chair reported that total of the bills being approved was \$555.15. Eleanor questioned the balance in the fort account with Rick saying the lighting had been taken from that line item. The motion passed unanimously
4. **Chair's Report:** Rick asked that each person responsible for oversight of a property send the clerk a list of ongoing/long-term needs so we can see and prioritize repairs. Doug toured the fire houses with Brian and he reminded people to do the Conflict of Interest Training if needed. The Historical Society is having a guest author Charles Slack speak about his book "Liberty's First Crisis" on April 12 at town hall
5. **Properties Update:**
 - a. Academy Building: Beth said the contractor will begin work and the lights at the doors need to be adjusted as they are photosensitive.
 - b. Fort Phoenix: No report.
 - c. School House: Rick said the building needs gutters
 - d. Firehouses: Alex said the trucks are hibernating and he checked both stations and they are fine. There needs to be a no parking sign placed on the doors at Washington St. firehouse. Washington St. needs the sill replaced and the windows need to be reglazed
 - e. Nimrod Cannon: Eleanor asked that someone else take her place on this and it was agreed to have Doug take this on with Alex.
 - f. John Paul Jones Cannon: Eleanor said this is on hold due to the snow
 - g. Rogers School: Rick said the school was approved for the National Register of Historic Places
6. **House Plaque Applications:** None received. The question was asked as to where the application was and if it could be linked to the Library's page. Beth will speak with the library's archivist.

7. Discussion/Action Items:

- a. Discussion to Amend 2025 Minutes: Doug read the email he received from the Town Clerk regarding this. A motion was made that we amend the February, 2025 minutes under Discussion #4 to state that Mr. Doug Brady was incorrectly identified as a member of the Protecting Society and that he was there as a private citizen. It passed unanimously. (E.Chew/ B. Luey)
- b. Gas Line at Spring St. Firehouse: Matt asked why we were paying for a gas meter as the building does not have gas. A motion was made to have Alex contact Kevin Fournier about the possibility of removing the gas meter from the building. (E. Chew/A. Kuechler). It passed unanimously. Brain expressed concern with removing it and asked if this would create an issue with getting grants for the building.
- c. Delano Cemetery: Rick thanked Doug for doing this and Brian asked about cleaning the headstones. A motion was made to accept the sign written circa 1807 and to use the standard cemetery style with the 25X34 inch sign with a post and that we submit this to the BPW Board and to have our chair sign the bid of \$210.00 when it comes in. It passed unanimously. (D. Brady/ B. Luey)
- d. Street Light Expense Approval: A motion was made that we approve the final expense of \$350.00 from the gift account for the street light project with Nils to purchase what is needed. (R. Martin/ A/ Kuechler) It passed unanimously
- e. Possible Eagle Scout Projects: A motion was made to approve Rick and Eleanor' attendance at a scout meeting to share potential projects with them. It passed unanimously. (A. Kuechler/ B. Luey)

8. Committee Liaison Reports:

- a. CPC: Eleanor reported that Kevin F. had sent the contract back ot the contractor with the changes the town's attorney wanted and once both sign it then work can begin in 2-3 weeks. The contractor wants to come and talk about the shingles as he thinks another option would be better. The CPC began looking at projects and the budget last month. Discussion ensued as to whether we should have them come to our meeting and if that would change the total bid and cause it to need to go back out to bid. Eleanor said she felt we should have him come and explain it so we were aware. Doug asked what the time frame was for applying for CPC funds for this year and the process was explained.
- b. Lagoa Society: Rick said they are meeting February 12, 2026.

9 Commission Member Items: None

10. Public Comment: No public comment provided

11. Next regularly scheduled meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

12.Motion to adjourn: The motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 7:42 p.m. (B. Luey/A. Kuechler)

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Chew
Clerk