

Town of Stow
Stow Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2023

I. Call to order

The regular meeting of the Stow Historical Commission was called to order at 7:33 p.m. on Thursday, October 5, 2023 on Zoom.

II. Roll call

The following people were present:

Commission Members: Dot Spaulding, Barbara Clancy, Andy Crosby, Stacen Goldman, Bob Norton

Absent: none Guests: none

III. Meeting Minutes

Andy Crosby made and Stacen Goldman seconded a motion to approve the August minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Reports

Stacen Goldman made and Bob Norton seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Building Permits

There is a demolition permit for 79 Kingland Road. There are pictures of the structure so there doesn't need to be action taken.

VI. Community Preservation Committee/Randall Portrait

At the last CPC meeting the committee went through a list of funded projects that have not been closed out. The cemetery mapping project is one. CPC will check in with project contacts on the status of these projects.

The administration funds for developing an estimate and simple design for West School roof repairs wasn't encumbered from the last fiscal year so CPC will have to vote again to appropriate it.

CPC will hold a public hearing on the town preservation plan but the Historical section was rewritten last year, and is still current. Barbara will send it to Commission members.

The Randall Library pulled their application to restore the Randall portrait but will resubmit it.

VII. West School

Repair: Dot Spaulding circulated the SFQ for the West School roof. Andy Crosby asked that we specify keeping wood shingles, though it is also worth looking into whether the school originally had a slate roof. He also said that we should specifically request proposals from restoration companies. Both are important for national registry status. Barbara Clancy said she would make these changes and send the

form to Commission members. She will also ask Ashley Pinard about how to work with companies that charge for inspections prior to writing an estimate, for instance Colonial Restorations, although those contractors might waive the fee for a municipal contract.

Dot is looking for additional consultants to bid for consulting help with the National Register application. She will talk to the building department about having the West School winterized.

VIII. Library artifacts

Dot Spaulding distributed a letter from Denise Demboski detailing library closure. Dot doesn't have a list of artifacts from the Historical Society but hopes to have it tonight. The Historical Society has already moved their items. Members agreed that the Commission needs to take responsibility for packing and storing the remaining items. Stacen Goldman said it would be good to get a formal understanding from the town as to which entity within the town owns and is responsible for these items. Dot noted that some of the items don't have a clear relationship to Stow history. Stacen suggested and Commission members agreed that if items have a clearer relationship to other towns they should be offered to those towns' Historical Societies. Other items need to be repatriated. Items can be inventoried as we pack them and stored at the Town Hall, and then the inventory should be reviewed. Dot said that any firearms on display should be stored by the Stow police. Commission members agreed to help pack and inventory as schedules permit starting the day after the meeting.

IX. New Members

Associate members are still needed. Dot is looking for a retired teacher to help run the educational program at West School.

X. Old and New Business

Andy Crosby proposed a project on surveying Indigenous sites and suggested asking the Massachusetts Historical Commission for advice on how to start this project. Commission members agreed this should be done and might have town support for funding.

Dot is interested in doing data sheets for houses on Lake Boon that were catalogued by Freedom's Way.

XI. Correspondence

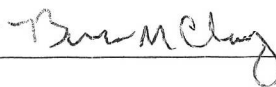
None received.

XII. Adjournment

Andy Crosby made and Stacen Goldman seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Next meeting: November 2, 2023

Minutes submitted by: Barbara Clancy



Minutes Approved: Nov. 2, 2023