

Marshfield Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting of June 6, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM in Hearing Room 2 at the Town Hall.

Attending were Otis Carney, Alfred Almeida, Cindy Castro, Jim O’Gara, Robert Dougherty, Brendan Coyne, Michelle Campion and Norma Haskins.

Also attending were Town Historian Cynthia Krusell and Betty Bates. They came to discuss the proposal of Tom Whalen for the construction of a granite monument at the Winslow Plot in Winslow Cemetery to list the names of those interred at the site. The following are her reasons for not approving of this monument:

1. It is impossible to make an accurate list of the people in the tomb. Sources all vary on who is there. She referred to the Marcia Thomas book on Marshfield history from 1940.
2. To attempt such a listing would be to perpetuate errors in stone. It would be sure to list some who are not there as well as omit some who are there. Many of those listed in the mock up drawing of the monument are not Winslow’s or even related to the family. Also people were put in tombs temporarily for many reasons, one of which was winter burial when unable to bury in earth.
3. Should you erect a new monument in an old family plot? Who says you can do this? If others were to do it, wouldn’t it clutter the cemetery?
4. How is this proposed project to be funded? It can’t be CPA funds since it is neither preservation nor restoration. Is this a necessary project at all? Why? The Winslow’s are already listed on the slate tablet on the tomb.

Brief discussion followed. She disagrees with any effort to make a new monument for the Winslow plot.

She suggested if monies were available it would be better spent replacing the cast iron fence around the Winslow plot. Otis advised that while the funds are not available at this time it is possible they may be available in future years and we will review the matter again later.

Cynthia and Betty also voiced their concerns with the cleaning of the marble markers in the Town cemeteries. She produced documents including the Laws and Regulations Protecting Burial Grounds and Markers in Massachusetts. Also a paper on the cleaning of marble grave monuments. She is concerning the cleaning now being used is removing a portion of the script each time it is done and thereby shortening the life of the markers. Otis will advise the DPW and Town Administrator of her concerns before they start on Cedar Grove Cemetery.

Demolition Application – 19 Reed St- Mike Biviano Jr. present for the owner. - The main house is to be demolished but the accessory building will be left. Main house to be replaced with another single family home. Alfred reviewed condition. After review Cindy made a motion, seconded by Jim that this house has no historical significance to the Town and we would have no objection to the issuance of a demolition permit. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Demo- 231 Canoe Tree Way- The permit is for a two car garage only. Alfred reviewed. Condition is poor, building is falling down. After review Michelle made a motion, seconded by Jim that this building has no historical significance to the Town and we would have no objection to the issuance of a demolition permit. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Demo- 142 Nantasket Ave- Alfred reviewed. Cottage is one of only a few left in that area and is in need of updating. After review Bob made a motion, seconded by Jim that this cottage has no historical significance to the Town and we would have no objection to the issuance of a demolition permit. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

0 Highland St- This permit is for a barn at least 200 years old. Alfred reviewed. It was originally a part of the property of Timothy Rogers, a significant Marshfield resident, across the street. That house is almost 300 years old. No one knows exactly when the barn was built. The barn is in very good condition. New owners wants to demolish it to be replaced by a house. The owner not being present it was decided to postpone this hearing to our next meeting is hopes we can save this old barn. Michelle made a motion, seconded by Norma to table this discussion to the next meeting. It was voted and passed. Unanimously.

It was decided to postpone discussion on 410 Union Street to the next meeting.

Concord Coach- Alfred reports that condition of the coach needs attention. Mold has started to attack the fabric inside and the leather. The restorer is coming this summer to assess the condition and make his recommendations.

Training Green- The Congregational Church has requested the use of the Training Green for their church fair on July 7 through 9th. Jim made a motion, seconded by Norma to allow the use. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Secretary's Report, The minutes of May 2nd were reviewed. After review Jim made a motion, seconded by Cindy to accept the minutes as prepared. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Treasurer's Report- Brendan reports all bills have to be in before the end of the month. Still outstanding are the funds allocated for the Granite markers booklets.

The plaque at Webster's well was quoted at \$845.00 and Norma is working on another quote.

Flagpole at Winslow Burying Ground. Otis reports the CPC will order the work done and pay for it.

Norma reports the plaque on the Law Office needs cleaning. She is in the process of getting quotes for the work to be done. First quote was for \$600.00.

Otis reports the work on the Law Office is proceeding - slowly.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Next meeting will be JULY 5th (Wednesday).

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins
Secretary