

Marshfield Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting of December 4th, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:25PM in Hearing Room 3 at the Town Hall. Attending were Otis Carney, Cindy Castro, Alfred Almeida, Michelle Campion, Jim O’Gara and Norma Haskins.

Secretary’s report- The minutes of the meeting of November 7th were reviewed. After review Jim made a motion, seconded by Cindy to accept the minutes as prepared. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Cherry Hill Marker- We discussed our two options, one offered by Cynthia as her recollections of the original marker and Brendan’s suggestion of text from his last speech. As Brendan was unable to attend this meeting it was decided to table this discussion to the next meeting.

Burial Hill Marker- Norma reports she received a call from Cynthia (Town Historian) that the First Meeting House marker at Burial Hill was in disrepair and needed attention. After referring it to Tom Whelan who oversaw the restoration there it was decided the sign needed to be stripped and repainted. The estimate from a local sign shop was \$350.00. Hoping to save the commission that expense she purchased the materials needed to do the job for \$43.18 and the job has been completed and sign replaced by Arthur Haskins in only a few days. Michelle made a motion, seconded by Jim to reimburse Norma for \$43.18 for materials purchased. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Congregational Church- Michelle reports that the Church has applied for funding from CPC to do restoration for their steeple and parish Hall. After research by CPC and Town Counsel their application was denied because it is a religious organization. State law prohibits using CPC funds for this purpose except for three specific criteria which the church was unable to meet.

Mysterious portrait- Cindy reports the Assessor’s office was cleaning out their safe and a large framed portrait of Daniel Webster was found. It was decided the portrait will be held at the Marsha Thomas House until spring when it will replace the one over the fireplace at the law office.

She also reported they were cleaning out the attic because the roof is leaking. They found twelve cases of Lysander's book on the history of Marshfield published in 1920's. Three cases had been damaged by the leak. The remaining 9 cases belong to the Commission. The books have been moved to the Marsha Thomas House and it was decided that the Society will sell the books, which are no longer in print, for \$25.00 each. \$15.00 will be returned to the Commission for their donations account and the remaining will be retained by the Society.

Peterson barn- Alfred reports he was contacted by the Peterson family who would like to get rid of an old barn on their property that dates back to the 1800's. The barn is in excellent condition. They would like the town to take it but we have no place for it or the funds to do the project. It is too far from the fairgrounds to be of use to them. They may be considering demolition. After a brief discussion it was decided it is up to the owner to decide what to do, not us.

Cemetery Survey- Norma reports that it was brought to her attention by Tom Whelan that Mr. & Mrs. Jeb DeLoach spent all last summer doing a survey of three of our older cemeteries. Centre Cemetery, Chapel Cemetery and Two Mile Cemetery. It included a very thorough listing of every interment with pictures of each stone, spread sheets including who is buried there, the script on each stone including dates and sayings. Due to the extremely thorough work done Norma suggested we send a letter of thanks to the De Loachs for all their hard work. We will have copies of all their work included in our files.

Training Green- Application received from the Recreation Dept. for use of the training green for their ice rink from December through March. Cindy made a motion, seconded by Jim to allow the use. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Application received by the First Congregational Church for use of the green for their live nativity in December 23rd for a few hours. Michelle made a motion, seconded by Jim to allow the use. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Announcements- Resident from 166 Plain Street is interested in the history of her house. Referred her to the Registry of Deeds.

Otis showed us a large Marshfield flag made many years ago by Dorit Flowers and recently given to the Commission by Sam Spencer. After a brief discussion it was decided to get it cleaned and save it to be framed for our new office.

Local Builder Chris Regan was before us concerning 272 Summer Street which he recently purchased. It is a very old house which belonged to Earl Banner who was a reporter/illustrator for the Boston Globe in the 1940's. The house is not in very good condition and Mr. Regan is undecided whether to restore (which he would really like to do) the house or demolish it and replace it with a larger more modern house. He would like some help from the Commission but we explained that we are not building experienced and he would have to make this decision himself.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20PM.

Next meeting January 8th.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins, Secretary