

Marshfield Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting of April 5th, 2016

Meeting called to order at 6:35PM in Hearing Room 3 at the Town Hall.

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

Secretary’s Report – The minutes of the meeting of March 2nd were reviewed. Alfred made a motion, seconded by Jim to accept the minutes as prepared. It was voted and passed. Michelle abstained as she was not there.

Treasurers Report- Alfred reports only one bill to vote on. It’s the responsibility of the Commission to supply a new flag for the Training Green each year. He made a motion, seconded by Michelle to expend \$200.00 for the new flag. It was voted and passed, unanimously. The balance remaining in the budget for this fiscal year is \$979.47.

Demolition Application- 175 Elm Street - Commission members visited the site last week with Mr. Dick Rockwood, representing the owner. This is a very old house and in serious disrepair from rot and mold. It has not been lived in for several years. Town Historian Cynthia Krusell has also reviewed this structure. It cannot be saved. It is not to be replaced at this time. Alfred made a motion, seconded by Jim that the Building Inspector be advised that the Commission has no objection to the issuance of a demolition permit as this house has no historical significance to the Town. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Alfred reports his term on the Commission is about to expire. If everyone agrees he has volunteered to stay on as an Associate Member in order to continue preparing the commission for demolition permit discussions. We all agreed and thank him for his efforts for the Commission. Brendan has agreed to take over as Treasurer and Alfred will help him get started.

Historic Papers- Norma reports that Bob Galvin Esquire, has donated some very old papers to the Commission including several very old original deeds and papers concerning the of “Chapel of Ease” which was situated on Old Main Street at the Hills Cemetery and was demolished in the 1970’s. Some of these papers were of the pastor John Leonard and his instructions as the disposition of the church bell (which is on display where the church used to stand) and the Church clock (which is on display at Sturbridge Village). The Commission members were allowed to look over the papers which also included a newspaper printed in Marshfield from 1900 and another from Scituate from 1900. It was decided to file them for future use if needed.

Granite Marker- Norma reports she’s been unable to contact the Joe Spinella to dig the hole for the marker for GHRR. Alfred will contact his grandson and see if he can help us get the hole dug.

Daniel Webster Law Office- Otis reports that the Daniel Webster Preservation Trust would like the Commission to help support the grounds work around the law office in the future. He asks if the Commission would agree to the expenditure of three mowing per year at a cost of \$250.00 each. He can make arrangements with the Landscaping Company to bill us directly. After a brief discussion we agreed. He will make the offer and see if they agree and let us know.

Skunk Hollow Cemetery- Otis explains that this is the cemetery behind the old Baptist Church often called Plainville Cemetery. The Trust that maintained that cemetery after the demise of the church has disbanded and the cemetery has been abandoned. The records concerning that cemetery has yet to be found. The DPW has been advised by Town Counsel not to get involved at this time until the records are located. This is for our information only at this time.

Announcements- Inquiries have been received from two local homeowners at 140 Acorn St and 236 Elm St. concerning information of their historic homes. Otis will try to assist them.

The Congregational Church has requested the use of the Training Green for their Annual Church Fair from July 7 through July 11th. The recreation department uses a part of the green for their concert on July 10th but it should not conflict with the fair. It was agreed to allow the use.

Next Meeting will be May 3rd.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins

Secretary