

Marshfield Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting of November 5th, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:45PM in Hearing room 1 at the Town Hall. Attending were Cindy Castro, Kathy Sullivan, Michelle Campion and Norma Haskins.

Norma asked all for a moment of silence to remember the passing of our Chair Otis Carney since our last meeting.

Demolition Application- 556 Pleasant St- Owners present. Cindy explained that this house is entered on our list of Historical Properties as the John Damon House. The new owners would like a permit to demolish the addition on the back of the house which was not on the original house. They would like permission to demolish the barn too but really are trying to save the barn. Pictures show the house has been neglected for many years and the sill is rotten. The owner is going to replace the sill in the main house. After review Cindy made a motion to allow the demolition of the addition and the barn only. Motion seconded by Kathy it was voted and passed, unanimously. Cindy will notify the building inspector.

Demolition- 272 Summer Street- The owner Mr. Regan was not present but purchased the house with the intents to restore and live there. He discovered that the house was in far worse shape than he had thought and the cost to restore and bring up to code was prohibitive. Pictures of the house confirm this. He would like to demolish and replace the structure. While this house was not on our list of historic houses it should have been. We discussed the possibility of placing a marker there to designate it the location of the first East Marshfield post office and the Little Green Light restaurant in its early days. Records indicate it was built in 1890's. After review Cindy made a motion, seconded by Kathy that due to its condition the Historical Commission will not be opposed to the issuance of a demolition permit. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Irish Journey, Dan Reynolds- Dan Reynolds appeared before us to explain his idea for a project to place 5 life sized bronze statues along a portion of the rail trail from South River Street to downtown commemorating the journey of Irish immigrants into our area. He showed us five drawings and 3 sculptures in clay which would be part of the project. He has asked CPC to fund a large portion of the \$500,000.00 project. They have concerns on how this project really fits into our history. Michelle felt that the Irish really came here from Boston to vacation in the summer. There possible could be a link to the Irish Mossing done here and in Scituate. Mr. Reynolds explained he had a showing of the project at the Webster estate recently and he's open to doing functions to promote donations when asked. He will supply the entertainment. Kathy suggested he may contact the North River Arts Society for help. She also suggested he contact the Ventress Library Trustees as he plans on the last sculpture being in that area. He is looking for suggestions as to how he can link the Irish to Marshfield's history.

Secretary's Report. After review of the minutes of October 1st Kathy made a motion, seconded by Cindy to accept the minutes as prepared. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Norma made a motion, seconded by Michelle, to nominate Cindy and Kathy a co-chairs for the Commission. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

There was a brief discussion regarding the granite markers at Centre Marshfield. It was decided to move the original marker in the middle of the cemetery to the location of the new marker and we hope we can reuse the new marker for another location. Norma to check with Swenson Granite and see if that can be done.

Cindy reports the Veterans Agent is in need of a new flag for the Training Green. She made a motion, seconded by Michelle, to set aside \$300.00 for a new flag. It was voted and passed, unanimously. Norma to get information of where Otis got the flags.

Brief discussion of the historical marker books, still in the works.

Brief discussion on our new office which should be about twelve months away. Norma mentioned we should be prepared for furniture needed. Probably a table and chairs for persons to spread out and review materials and meetings, a desk and a copier. Cindy suggested that we may be able to get some furniture from the Town Hall as things are moved around there.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43PM.

Next meeting will be December 3rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins, Secretary