

Marshfield Historical Commission Minutes

Meeting of November 3rd, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM in Hearing Room 3 at the Town Hall.

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

Secretary's Report- The minutes of the meeting of October 6th were reviewed. Finding no errors Alfred made a motion, seconded by Jim to accept the minutes as prepared. It was voted and passed.

Treasurers Report – Alfred reports no changes since last month. He is still waiting for a bill from the publisher of the brochure.

Demolition Applications- 137 Bay Avenue - Alfred reviewed. He reports this is an old house that needs significant work. Cost to bring up to code is more than starting anew. Alfred made a motion, seconded by Jim, to advise the Building Inspector 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.

47 Charlotte Street- Alfred reviewed. This is a very small house that has no foundation, it is sitting on cement blocks. Needs to be raised 16 feet higher to comply with FEMA rules. Alfred made a motion, seconded by Michelle, that the building inspector be advised that this house has no historical significance to the Town and we would no objection to the issuance of a demolition permit. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

167 Washington St - Alfred reviewed. As with previous two this is a 1940 cottage, on cement blocks. Needs to be replaced. After review Alfred made a motion, seconded by David to advise the building inspector that this house has

no historical significance to the Town and he may issue a demolition permit. It was voted and passed, unanimously.

Brief discussion on a demo permit issued in February, 2014. Property on Littles Lane being sold and the new owner to demo. Michelle asked if a new hearing was necessary and Alfred explained that once we made a determination it stays with the house, regardless of the owner.

Daniel Webster Law Office- Otis advises there is \$14,244. Left in the original monies appropriated. \$8400. Has been set aside for the masonry work. There is enough left to finish the foundation. The DPW has volunteered to do the landscape work but their time is very limited. Otis is getting a price from a private company to complete that work which will include removing and moving shrubs and stone, grading and seeding remaining area and add small plantings in front of the building and the addition of two parking places. He's still waiting for proposal from Mr. Detweiler for the inside work. He has an estimate for the electrical work at \$7700.00 He's hoping the work will be complete for a rededication Ceremony in the spring of 2017.

Pratt Building- Tom Whelan has made a proposal to the Board of Selectmen to subdivide the property and keep the house and barn on 1.6 acres. He wants to put the house and barn out for RFP to publicly sell it provided it be restored. It needs electric, heat and septic done in order to be brought up to date. There was a brief discussion on the needs of that property and access to the South River.

South Grammar School (Hancock Bldg.)- The Town Administrator is interested in talking with us about this project sometime soon. We had a brief discussion on the needs for that building. There is a proposal from a Hanover firm for the work. The Town Administrator is interested in getting some CPC funds scheduled for historic restoration to help on this project. Otis reports he has found some very old pictures of this building which are very different from what it looks like today.

Announcements: Norma mentioned that Robin Mitchell's new book "Yesterdays Marshfield" is full of very old pictures. She felt the Commission should have a copy for our archives. Jim O'Gara offered to donate a copy to the Commission.

Otis reports the Hall family has made a permanent loan of Webster books and papers to the Estate. He is in the process of reviewing them for anything significant.

Otis reports that there are papers from the estate of Porter Wright (foreman of Daniel Webster's estate and farm) that are in the possession of the Historical Society. He suspects they were found in the Webster Law Office years ago and taken there for safe keeping.

Next meeting December 1st.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Haskins

Secretary