

MINUTES: Waltham Historical Commission Meeting
June 10, 2019 at Stonehurst, Paine Estate

1. Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Call of the Roll:

Present: Commissioner Russo, Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Isaacson, Commissioner Dufromont, Commissioner Migdal, Commissioner Daly, Commissioner Wilson

Absent: None

3. Reading and acceptance of May 2019 minutes:

Amendments: 1. #9 Inventory, add the order of conditions with the DEP.

Motion to accept the minutes as amended, made by Commissioner Daly

Second: Commissioner Holmes

In favor: All

Against: None

Abstain: None

Recused: None

4. Chair: Announcements:

A. Commissioner Wilson needs to leave early, so we will hear the CPC report early.

Event: Mort Isaacson lead a walk on Saturday (6/8/2019) sponsored by the Recreation Dept. at Prospect Hill, talking about the trails and stonewalls at the park. Next event at the park will be on July 13, 2019 on insects in the park.

Event: Mort Isaacson attended a workshop given on interpreting the Secretary of Interior Standards, sponsored by the Weston Historical Commission.

Chair: Reading and description of correspondence: We allowed the demolition of 27 Middle Street, and they did take a number of pictures and sent those to the WHC.

Request from the ZBA – 71-73 Pond Street 40 B development, they have requested more information on the history of the property. Mort sent the historical report done by Marie.

We had our budget meeting with city council, our budget increases were granted.

We originally were going to hear 554 Lexington St; however, they have cancelled due to lack of information pertaining to the questions the commission raised at the May meeting. We may have to have a special meeting over the summer to discuss this further.

Mort Isaacson has requested from the law department on whether or not there is still a lawsuit pending between the city and the Stigmatines and if so, can the city demolish the buildings on the property?

6. Development Prospectus

b. 180 Third Ave – BP Third Avenue LLC c/o Marvin F Poer & Co. 800 Boylston Street
Suite 1900 Boston, MA 02199-8103

Phil McCourt representing the owners of the property. Special permit to store heavy equipment up on the site while the construction is underway. No buildings will come down in the process.

There will be a fence put up around the building at the top of the hill, and heavy equipment will be stored on site.

Comments by WHC: Commissioner Daly discussed that based on her findings from the 1946 divisions map, 128 did not exist at that time, and no buildings were on site at that time. Entertain a motion that the property is not historically significantly moved by Commissioner Wilson

Second: Commissioner Daly

In Favor: ALL Against: None Abstain: None Recused: None

Motion to hear the CPC report out of order moved Commissioner Holmes

Second: Commissioner Dufromont

In Favor ALL Against: None Abstain: None Recused: None
(See item # 9-2)

Motion to take new business out of order moved by Commissioner Dufromont

Second: Commissioner Holmes

In Favor: ALL Against: None Abstain: None Recused: None
(See item 11-A New Business)

Please let the record show, Commissioner Wilson has left the meeting following new business discussion regarding the City Hall restoration presented by Ernie Vazquez.

Entertain a motion to have old business taken out of order moved by Commissioner Dufromont

Second: Commissioner Holmes

In Favor: ALL Against: None Abstain: None Recused: None Absent: Commissioner Wilson
(See item 10-A Old Business)

7. Stonehurst: Monthly Report, Stonehurst Curator Ann Clifford

Summary: Ann Clifford submitted her monthly report which included a discussion of the CPC grant for \$50,000 dollars for exterior decay of the building which was approved.

Landscape, working on maintaining the vista, restoring the fields at Stonehurst, chipping and stump grinding work, and re-establish the grasses.

Motion to allow Ann to spend up to \$1,000 dollars for landscaping at Stonehurst over the summer months, moved by Commissioner Holmes

Second: Commissioner Dufromont

In Favor: ALL Against: None Abstain: None Recused: None Absent: Commissioner Wilson

Small discussion regarding the collections, including the mantel restoration, upcoming programs, open house for children was well attended and very successful event.

Report submitted to the Secretary by the Curator

8. Wellington House Report: Mort Isaacson has been in touch with the architect and engineer who came and inspected the house- Patrick Guthrie, Architect, and Stephanie Structural Engineer. They are looking for the WHC to tell them what we want for the first floor capacity.

Mort replied back and we are waiting to hear back from them with their final recommendations and report.

9. Liaison & Subcommittee Report

1. Fernald- Baldwin cottage site visit Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at noon.

2. CPC – Wellington Farm Fields restoration clearing of tree removal, planting and restoring stonewalls. Restore the land back to the original farming fields. This application was approved at the CPC. Anything to do with the Stonewalls should come before the WHC. The WHC needs to clarify if the fields are considered “historic” or do they fall under the care of Park and Rec. Since historic is checked on the application, the parties involved should come before the WHC and explain/present the project.

Chimneys at Francis Cabot Lowell Mill are in disrepair need to be fixed and many letters of support have come in favor of this project, Jack Cox was one of those supporters.

3. Historic Inventory- Last fall we surveyed the Mass Central Railroad from Market Basket to Beaver St. looking for artifacts etc. to document and evaluate. The artifacts were characterized to be left in place, or leave in place if not in the way. We don’t want the construction company to remove the artifacts while working on the cleanup of the areas.

4. Edu. & Outreach – Historic Plaque Program, mock up plaque using the Arrigo Farm house information. Mort would like to see the date size larger and the writing of WHC smaller.

Spend up to \$100.00 dollars to ship a sample plaque moved by Commissioner Holmes

Second: Commissioner Dufromont

In Favor: ALL Against: None Abstain: None Recused: None Absent: Commissioner Wilson

10. Old Business

a. Discussion Stigmatine Property

Summary: City officials, and Architect did not make the meeting tonight.

Comments from the Public: (taken out of order) Robert Coleman, 249 Smith Street, presented photographs of the interior of the Clarke House take on June 3, 2019. Site plans were submitted to the commission showing places for the relocation of the Judge Clarke House. Some is being shown on the current sight at the Stigmatines, and a few by Chesterbrook Woods area by the Waltham High School.

11. New Business

a. Discussion of City Hall Windows & Doors

Summary: Ernie Vazquez, CGKV Architects, Inc. 204A Hampshire St. Cambridge, MA

Working on city hall to replace the doors, windows, the cupola and put sprinklers inside the building. As far as historical, we are going to be looking at the windows and doors.

Our idea is to replicate this as close to the original as possible. Re-use the metal grills from the original doors and incorporate them into the new doors. Keep as much of the interior trim as possible. We would be using aluminum windows, and solid wood doors.

The architect will send the commission pictures of the original windows along with pictures of the replacement windows so the commission can get an idea of the look.

- b. Discussion of bylaws, and including the word "calendar" days, to clarify. Any place that states the word days, pertaining to days and time lines the word "calendar" should appear before it.
- c. 40 Charles St was granted emergency demolition as deemed an unsafe structure. The commission did support the demolition of the property as it was a safety hazard to the public.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 8:52 p.m. by Commissioner Holmes

Second: Commissioner Dufromont

In favor: All

Against: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: None

Respectfully Submitted



Secretary, Marie Daly

Prepared by Pamela Lyons