



Mendon Historical Commission

Members: Wayne Wagner, Chairman
Jane Lowell

Amy DeWitt, Vice Chair
Ellen Wagner
Tony Willoughby, Recording Secretary

Meeting Date	June 5, 2012
Location	Mendon Records Room
Status	Approved: July 11, 2012

Present

Amy DeWitt, Jane Lowell, Ellen Wagner, Tony Willoughby

Jess R. Phelps, Historic New England.

7:00 Call to Order

Acting Chairman DeWitt called the meeting to order.

7:00 Jess R. Phelps - Historic New England

Jess R. Phelps from Historic New England attended the meeting. The Historical Commission was considering having Historic New England hold the preservation easement for some of the municipal buildings in town. Before the Historical Commission meeting Mr. Phelps walked through the Taft Library, the Housing Barn, The Historical Society Museum and the Records Room. We also discussed the Olney Cook Artisan Shop.

Mr. Phelps described the history of Historic New England. He explained that they focus primarily on privately owned buildings. They inspect each property they manage annually, internally and externally.

Mr. Phelps explained that, because they focus on private property and the cost involved, Historic New England may not be the best holder of municipal preservation easements.

The commission discussed other options for preservation easements.

Mr. Phelps left the meeting at 7:35.

7:36 Approve Minutes of May 23, 2012

J. Lowell made a motion to approve the minutes of May 23, 2012 as presented. The motion was seconded by E. Wagner and passed unanimously.



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Jane Lowell Ellen Wagner
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7:39 Housing Authority Barn

Amy DeWitt reported that Phillip Warbasse, of Chenot and Associates, provided a contract to provide an assessment to repair the Housing Authority Barn. The cost to write the assessment would be \$3,900.

7:57 ADA Compliance of Records Room

Tony Willoughby reported that Kevin Rudden, Mendon's American with Disabilities Act Coordinator, is concerned that the Records room is not ADA compliant. As such open meetings should not be held there. The Historic Commission agreed that they would meet in a compliant site.

8:05 Demolition Application: 34 George Street

The Historical Commission sent a letter to the Building Department on May 23, 2012. The letter stated that, since the applicant never responded to the Commission's request for a demolition plan, the demolition application should be returned with no action.

Amy DeWitt reported that the certified mail receipt from Domenic Afonso/F&D Realty Trust was received on May 25, 2012.

Action Item ⇒ T. Willoughby to ask for the Historical Commission be put on the next Planning Board and Board of Health's agenda to discuss what can be done to save 34 George Street.

8:33 Conversion of Saint Michael's Church to a Library

The Commission discussed the historical aspects of Saint Michael's church, with respect to using CPA "historic preservation" funds to renovate it.

Tony Willoughby made the following motion at 8:52:

I move that the Historical Commission support asking the Conservation Preservation Commission to provide CPA "Historic" funds for the renovation of Saint Michael's church as a town library.

The motion was seconded by E. Wagner and failed unanimously.

8:56 Motion to Adjourn

J. Lowell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by T. Willoughby. The motion passed unanimously.