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By KWilber/Assistant Town Clerk at 9:27 pm, Feb 25, 2024

Northborough Historic District Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 17, 2024. called to order 7:03 PM: Remote meeting.

Members present: Bob Licht, Millie Milton, Leslie Harrison, Brian Smith, Brian Swanson,

Absent: Tom Reardon, Amanda Derosier Millette; Alternates: Lorna Helms, Bruce Chute.

Bob read script including: "Pursuant to chapter 2 of the acts of 2023, an act relative to extending certain COVID 19 measures, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation..."

Prior meeting minutes: December 20, 2023 meeting minutes approved as presented by roll call by all except Millie who abstained as she wasn't present at that meeting. (Motion by Brian Smith seconded by Leslie). Brian Swanson will send PDF to Town clerk's office.

Old Business:

CPA project status review:

Library historical marker has been ordered as discussed at prior meeting.

We have heard nothing regarding application for National Register status for Howard Street Cemetery.

CPA funding for replacement for missing sign near aqueduct was accepted to put forward to town meeting for approval.

First Parish UU church steeple restoration funding application moving forward. The applicant was reminded by Bob that changes in appearance from street would need to be approved due to Historic District status. The steeple project will be internal modification only and will not require NHDC approval.

Chauncy Hall area marker frames are installed by R/C airplane landing area. Graphics were delayed pending feedback from Nipmuc Tribe.

Committee representative updates:

CPC: As discussed above. Also, White Cliffs bond payment needs to be approved. A proposal from Recreation Department for was withdrawn due to cost estimates being higher than expected.

MPIC: Meeting tomorrow with Select Board for finalizing downtown focused goals for improvements while maintaining aesthetics and incorporating adaptive reuse of "old" town hall and fire station.

Nothing new regarding warped cemetery signs and putting on historical sign near Assabet. Bob to talk to Crown Trophy.

New Business

We were contacted regarding siding changes proposed for 453 Main Street. As it is not in an historic district, there are no approvals required by us.

Bob is working with Cultural Commission and Community Affairs to solicit more members for *ad hoc* Revolution 250 committee to commemorate local events from 1774 to 1776. Will meet next Wednesday the 24th at the library to organize. all welcome.

NHDC annual report due soon? Bob to draft and send out for us to review.

Bob attended MPPF grant presentation regarding their matching grant program for municipalities and non-profits.

Homework for next time: we should review chapter 7 of our Historic Preservation plan, particularly 7.5 to come up with a few proposals we can put into action.

Next meeting likely Feb 21 probably by Zoom but may be in person depending on tech availability. Wednesdays still seem best for us.

Motion to Adjourn made by Millie, seconded by Brian Swanson and approved unanimously at approximately 7:42 PM. Minutes prepared by Brian Swanson.