

NORTHFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION

69 Main Street, Town Hall

Northfield, MA 01360

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Joe Graveline, Carol Lebo, Lisa McLoughlin, Joan Stoia, Don Campbell

Absent: Bob Hall, Sue Ross

Call to Order 4:02 by Chair

Minutes of Previous Meeting 10/1/18 motion to accept as amended: Joan; second: Lis; discussion: none; passes unanimously

Mail

Workshop Oct 24th on moving historic buildings optional attendance.

Citizen Input

None

Old Business and Updates

Fire Plaque and Ceremony (review)

Thanks to everyone; ~30 people; discussion about the event; 2 selectpeople came; nice note from Lois Sterns thanking us. Discussion of Northfield Historical Society/Commission naming confusion.

At the event Joe talked to Rep. Paul Mark about HB 2929 and gave him a package of documents and will follow up. Commissioners discussed history of the bill.

First Light and FERC

They're at Kidd's Island today. Joe hasn't been out with them recently, nor Lis. Joe will meet with chief archaeologist in Greenfield. They will also redo Smead Island later in the week.

Continuing Business

Item for Town Meeting postponed from May 2018

Town meeting 3, 10, 17th of December – meeting date hasn't been chosen yet.

Carol distributed copies of letter Joe presented to the Select Board. Joe talked with the Town Administrator, Bernie Kubiak, about the Commission's need for more information from Town Council.

Email received from TA Kubiak saying we can contact council directly.

-Our initial ask was to be in the information loop, not regulatory authority unless existing laws come into play.

-Attorney believes we want to regulate the process; he's misunderstanding the question.

-NHC can still make it clear that we are a body with a mandate-due diligence and research "support assisting" the project.

-There are towns with Bylaws; there is a guide from MHC on how to write a Bylaw to do just what we want to do.

-We request that we get a lawyer more familiar with this kind of law. "In an effort to be fiscally responsible to the town we request someone at F&P who has experience in this kind of proceeding. As our investigation of the process has revealed that a number of other towns in MA have taken advantage of existing processes to create similar Bylaws without creating Historical Districts."

-NHC also needs to find out when the town meeting is; when the window to submit closes; is there room for warrant articles?

Task list:

1. NHC should try to find out if we can get a replacement for the lawyer.
2. Short note/email with bundle of information to lawyer's office with phone conversation to follow with Joan; Joe; Carol, cc: Bernie.
3. Get endorsements from other boards
4. Need to do this when we're ready and may have to wait until May when there are more things to vote on and we'll have more time to polish it.
5. Avoid "We win, you lose."

Unanticipated Business

NHC needs to think about new Commissioners as several terms are coming to an end. We need to recruit an alternate as well as full-timers, Add recruitment strategies to next agenda.

Announcements

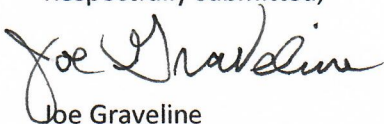
-Lis is going to a Land Trust Conference and will hear about Rural Historic Districts.

-Sat Oct 13, 11:00 Colrain Celebrating Life of William Apess.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: November 12, 2018

Adjournment 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Graveline

November 13, 2018