

MINUTES

**Barnstable Historical Commission
Town Hall
367 Main Street, Hyannis
Selectmen's Conference Room - Second Floor
February 03, 2011**

Members Present: Jessica Rapp Grassetto, George Jessop, Len Gobeil, Nancy Shoemaker, (Marilyn Fifield arrive at 4:25pm)

Members Absent: Barbara Flinn, Nancy Clark

Staff: Jackie Etsten, Principal Planner, Marylou Fair, Administrative Assistant

Vice Chairman Grassetto called the Meeting to order at 4:00pm, noting for the record that no demolition or relocation applications have been filed for this Agenda

CPA Updates

Cost Estimates – Old Selectmen's Building

Nancy Shoemaker commented that residents of West Barnstable are concerned that this project will never get completed. George Jessop noted that the foundation is high priority. Currently there is a pier foundation where every few years the center pier is in need of being replaced.

Two possible approaches would be: 1) maintenance on a minimal scale, or 2) hiring a consultant and outlining a procedure for reconstruction. The proposal he has seen is to remove and replace the foundation with a more traditional poured concrete with brickwork to simulate the original exterior. There is a good argument for this, as it will have to be done just once.

Nancy Shoemaker noted that the estimate for the foundation is \$51,000 and perhaps we should address this as a priority.

Len Gobeil noted that the issue is still a financial one, as CPC just turned down the request for the entire project. Perhaps the request could be revised for just this amount.

Jackie Etsten suggested going for the roof repair as well. She also reminded the Commission that there is a Gift Fund associated with the Selectmen's Building, and Finance could report the balance in that account, with fundraising another possibility to consider, as well.

Jessica Rapp Grassetto asked if they could apply to CPC for emergency repairs, as the foundation and the regrading of the site would certainly qualify.

Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, to send a request to the Community Preservation Committee asking for emergency funding for repair of the foundation and regrading of the site at the Old Selectmen's Building.

Discussion:

Nancy Shoemaker would like the request to mention that there is the Gift Fund as well.

Dorr Fox of Preservation Massachusetts was present and suggested prioritizing the list with the most critical issues being performed first and others added in stages.

Jessica Rapp Grassetto would like to see the following items included in the request based upon the recent budget figures:

Item # 9 Grading Work

Item #13 Drywells & Downspouts

Item #16 Floor/Foundation

Item #18 Roof Reinforcing

Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, to amend the previous motion to include Items #9, 13, 16, & 18, as noted above.

So Voted Unanimously

Correspondence and other materials received:

New Federal Street Sign Requirement – Public Comment Solicited

Currently, street signs are white lettering on a blue background. In the historic districts the signage is black lettering on a white background. There are some signs in historic districts that are cast iron. Jackie Etsten noted that one of the features of the new sign requirement is a proposed reflective background. Another concern is the Town's ability to change out street signs and the cost associated with it.

Nancy Shoemaker commented that due to the historic nature of this area, we should be allowed to keep and maintain those historic street identification signs that already exist.

Although the request for comment period deadline has passed, Jackie Etsten urged members to log on and enter their comments.

History of West Barnstable Cemetery – Submitted by Gay Black

Motion duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, to accept the West Barnstable Cemetery report written by Gay Black with thanks and gratitude for all her hard work.

So Voted Unanimously

Revised Form B & National Register Statement – 884 Main Street, Cotuit

Jessica Rapp Grasseti noted that they were able to save this house when it was proposed for demolition many years ago and is pleased to see the Inventory complete. The Commission thanks Jim Gould for his work and requests the Form be sent to Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC)

Letter from MHC dated 12/7/2010 re: Marstons Mills Inventories Sent

The Commission noted the letter from Mass. Historical Commission (MHC) acknowledging receipt of the recent Marstons Mills Inventories that were completed and forwarded to them.

Letter from Town of Barnstable, Zoning Board of Appeals dated 1/21/2011 – Comment Solicited

Unfortunately, there were no plans submitted with the letter, so the Commission could not comment on the project.

Having no further business before this Commission, a motion was duly made by Len Gobeil, seconded by Nancy Shoemaker, to adjourn the meeting at 4:55pm.

VOTE: So voted unanimously

Respectfully submitted,
Marylou Fair, Recording Secretary
and Commission Clerk Marilyn Fifield