

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 5, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the November 14th meeting were accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report: \$385 for operating expenses and the donation account has a balance of \$1,070, but the extra \$70 belongs to the Cultural Council. Marcia is working with Ron Castignetti to resolve the discrepancy.
2. Web site – Chris has transferred all his files to a new computer system. The Selectmen have made the Web site activation a goal for Ron Florino.
3. Rename Sam Miles Circle – DPW reports there were no water bills for Sam Miles Circle sent in November. Marcia met with Chairman Sweeney on Nov 30 regarding the on-going problems with the renaming of Sam Miles Circle. Marcia is to call him Tuesday Dec 6 or Wed December 7 for an update.
4. Book Donations – The books for St Pat's and Edgewood will be mailed with a cover letter. Marcia will research if the Senior Center has a copy of the book.
5. Membership – Steve will remind Amy Brough Palmerino (channel 9) about posting a message for volunteers to the Historical Commission.
6. Funding for Fire Station Restoration– Rep Casey's legislative aide, Brian Domoretsky, reports that the Senate has approved the supplemental budget and it now goes to a conference committee to reconcile the differences. He is hopeful that the \$200,000 will remain untouched as the language and dollar amount is the same in both versions.
7. Central School Building – The North Reading lease of the Central School building expires when school is over in June 2006. The School Department is considering a 5-10 year lease to the SEEM Collaborative. This is in addition to the SEEM leases at the North and East schools. Marcia recommended that the Commission continue to pursue adding the building to the state's MACRIS database. Chris can arrange for the film to be processed to provide archival quality photographs for the submission.

8. Preservation Month Speaker – Betty Whelan will request an invoice for \$100 from Alan Seaburg for his lecture about Frederic Tudor, The Ice King at the May 11, 2006 joint meeting.
9. Annual Report – Steve will work on the Annual Report (calendar year 2005) which is due in the Selectmen's Office in early January.
10. Deed Restriction – Marcia will re-write the letter notifying the Building Inspector of the 10-year deed restriction on the property at 342 William Street. Chris recommended that we ask the town to develop a policy of checking land records on-line as part of the preparation of permits from their office.
11. Press Release – Marcia spoke with Bee Russo and they volunteered to interview all or some of the parties involved in the sale and protection of 342 William Street (Helen and Norma Lister, Karen and Joe Cox, Attorney Cicutelli) with an eye toward publishing a human interest story in the local newspaper(s). Steve opined that the Listers would make a good Heritage Award nominee.
12. Demo Delay by-law – Chris asked about presenting the Demo Delay by-law at the May town meeting. Marcia will reprint the most recent draft for discussion at the January meeting.
13. Preservation Initiatives – The members discussed two preservation initiatives:
 - a.) Concord's plans for a bylaw to create neighborhood conservation districts to preserve the character of specific areas within the town and
 - b.) North Reading's existing zoning ordinance which allows lot size and frontage reductions in the interest of preservation. Marcia will research the zoning ordinance for the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary