

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 5, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen. *Absent:* Joan Quigley The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of November 7, 2011 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Marcia read Joan's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account.

3. Website

Marcia reported no changes. Tammy Ford e-mailed Marcia to say she is preparing a proposal for our January meeting. She could not attend tonight because of school final exams. Marcia was requested to inquire if Tammy plans to apply for membership or opt to be an unpaid consultant for the HC.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- No new applications have been received.
- The owner of 8 Highland Ave has agreed to a marker: 1889/ Built by Delbert W. Dennis/ Carpenter.
- Marcia reported her reminders to Mark at Gamit Signs about the 3 outstanding house markers while he is working on the required 'Preservation Works' sign for the OBG project.
- Marcia will send a request to the Historical Society to research the circa 1892 - 1886 house at 3 Morrison Ave (then 3 Shumway Circle). The land/house owners were Charles Stedman Hanks and H. Henry Douglas, both out-of-towners, so the information should be easy to locate.
- Margaret reported no further communication from the owners of 8 Gerry St.

5. Burial Ground

- The OBG Request for Proposals for the preparation of a Preservation Master Plan are due tomorrow, December 6. Of the five individuals/companies who showed interest, two have notified Marcia they will not submit proposals. One reported the required work exceeded the budget of \$39,400. Marcia expects the groups from Providence, RI and New Salem, MA may submit proposals. If no proposals are received, the RFP will be amended and re-issued.
- Steve noted that warrant articles to request funds are the norm, especially for cemetery funds that are released annually by Town Meeting to DPW for Lindenwood Cemetery.
- Steve reported that Ralph Barile is willing to help us secure a flat cemetery marker for J. Parker Gould. Steve would like to have a ceremony for the installation of the marker.

6. Adaptive Reuse

- Marcia noted that the East School sale to Beacon Partners is still on target for this month.

- There is a public hearing on December 6 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the North School RFP. At the request of a North School neighbor, David Ragucci asked Mr. Grover to draw a plan of three house lots fronting Collincote Street that would effectively screen whatever development occurs behind them. It is expected that Mark Drew has met with his neighbors and will have comments about what types of development are acceptable to the neighbors.

7. New Business

- Steve noted that Elsie Wallace may attend our January meeting to ask for advice on writing grant applications for an elevator in the Congregational Church. Marcia commented that elevator design has improved and they no longer require a machinery 'house' on the roof of the building.
- Marcia noted the MWRA letter of November 7 to the Mass Historical Commission updating the status of the Spot Pond Covered Storage Facility. The information on page 4 about the three test pits and the artifacts that were found was interesting.
- The Annual Report is due January 10. Items to be included: Stakeholders Meeting in May to present Adaptive Reuse of North and East Schools, # of historic house markers installed, adaptive reuse of East School, OBG Preservation Master Plan that was 1 of 43 applications totaling 2.3 million dollars, 2011 Heritage Award winner Maureen Saltzman, etc.

8. Open Forum

- Steve noted that Weiss Farm will be in court this week for the litigation involving the farm, Mr. Wantman and the town.
- The next meeting will be on Tuesday January 3 at 7 pm in the Senior Center due to the legal holiday on Monday.

The meeting ended at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary