

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 5, 2007 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Joanne DiMambro, Carol Nickerson, Joan Quigley
Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Chris Willard called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m. Steve Rotondi joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the January 8, 2007 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07.
3. Web Site
 - Chris will redirect e-mails sent to the HC web page to our home e-mail addresses. He can give us response capability without divulging our home e-mails.
 - Chris will send Marcia the access to various tutorials about managing the web page.
 - Chris will experiment with reproducing an aerial view of Meeting House Ridge and the OBG for our use on the web page and/ possibly the OBG video.
4. Old Burying Ground
 - Carol and Joanne reported great success in researching the OBG at the Historical Society last Saturday. Marcia will follow-up about another time for additional research.
 - Steve reported that Amy Palmerino is willing to meet with us to discuss the OBG video. She supports the creation of a storyboard outlining the scenes in the video. He will ask her to attend our March meeting. There are no time restrictions on the video; it can be as long or a short as we see fit.
 - This video is yet another tool for teaching the history of Stoneham. The members discussed making copies available to the public schools. Bob Hogan at the High School may be able to help.
 - At Steve's request, Marcia will send the "Trolley Tales" script to members.
5. Annual Report – Steve will write the annual report for the March meeting. Marcia will make copies of the Heritage Award and Book Presentation photos.

6. Fire Station

- The \$200,000 State allocation for repair of the Fire Station ends on June 30, 2007. Marcia presented the draft of a 12-month timeline outlining the necessary tasks.
- Mass Historical Commission (MHC) is willing to pre-release funds for a preservation architect (PA) to prepare an assessment of the exterior condition and proposed renovation of kitchen. This pre-release requires a signed preservation restriction, a signed state contract and a Request for Proposal approved by the MHC for a Preservation Architect to do the work.
- A signed Preservation Restriction (PR) requires a vote at Town Meeting. Two key points of this “in perpetuity” PR are that the building must have adequate maintenance and the MHC must have full review and approval of all subsequent alterations.
- A PR goes on the deed and passes to subsequent owners should the Town ever sell the building. Paul Holtz of MHC told Marcia that his organization looks favorably on adaptive reuse of buildings and would also consider an addition to the existing fire station if it was “sympathetic” to the original design of the building.
- Chris will discuss this project with the new Town Administrator. Marcia will confirm that the funding became available on July 1, 2006 and investigate why the allocation is only for 1 year. (Paul Holtz at MHC explained that these State allocations are normally for 3 years.) Marcia will investigate the requirements for a warrant article regarding the Preservation Restriction to be presented at the May Town Meeting.

There is no business for the Open Forum.

The meeting ended at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary