

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 5, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard.

Excused: Peter Bracciotti, Betty Whelan

The meeting began at 7:31 PM with the minutes from the December 1, 2003 meeting accepted as written. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$209.45, was accepted. Handouts for the meeting: Agenda, Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) Dec 8, 2003 letter to Environmental Secretary Herzfelder regarding the Stoneham Executive Center, Selectmen's Dec 31, 2003 letter noting that our Annual Reports is due Jan 12, 2004, "A Civic Gift" published by the Michigan Land Use Institute. The following business was transacted:

1. Steve Rotondi reported that Dr. Pacos plans to move forward with the Middlesex Fells project, probably in April. Chris Willard reported that the Massachusetts GIS department has an older model Global Positioning System (GPS) unit that we can borrow to locate sites within the Fells. GIS is also willing to extract the data for us. Chris noted that the prices of GPS units have come down and that one costing as little as \$300 is accurate within 300 feet.
2. Steve reported that the Stoneham Cultural Council granted the Historical Commission \$200 for a Preservation Week speaker. Marcia Wengen reported that Mike Ryan's Middlesex Fells presentation on Dec 16th at the Medford Public Library had a number of drawbacks and would not be the best choice. Other suggestions for possible speakers included Dee Morris, David Kruh (The Big Dig) or John Indelicato.
3. Steve asked for comments from the members regarding accomplishments to be included in the Annual Report due on Monday January 12th. Marcia will confirm that 2003 was our 26th year.
4. The members agreed on the wording for a motion as follows: "The Stoneham Historical Commission supports the preservation of the 1916 Central Fire Station existing building's façade and outer appearance." No vote was taken as two

- members were absent. No agreement was reached about presenting the motion to the Selectmen.
5. Steve Rotondi reviewed the MHC letter and expressed his concern that no one from MHC contacted us for our opinion. He questioned how they arrived at their conclusions of the Stoneham Executive Center project, given that the long awaited guidelines have not been published. He was surprised at how quickly the National Register nomination for the Parkways was completed.
 6. The meeting ended at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary