

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 6, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe,
Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, and Marcia Wengen

Excused: Betty Whelan

1. The meeting began at 7:35 PM with the distribution of the following documents: a.) minutes from the December 2nd meeting, b.) a letter from Betsy Friedberg of the Mass Historical commission to the Department of the Interior requesting an expedited review of Greater Boston and Middlesex Fells Parkways for National Register nomination.
2. John Warren from the Finance Board was present for the discussion of the CPA. Although the Board will not spearhead a CPA project, they will help with the financial aspects and presentations at Town Meeting. Several options were identified to present CPA information including approaching the seniors, the 6 PTO's and providing neighborhood venues to get the word out. At least one key project (perhaps the 1916 fire station) needs to be identified. Timing will be a consideration given the recent reassessment and the increase in real estate taxes.
3. Marcia will contact John Hoyland from Bedford about speaking to us at the February meeting concerning his CPA initiative. Marcia will research the possibility of having a speaker from Wakefield (Nancy Bertrand) or Reading (Virginia Adams) where the CPA failed to pass.
4. Steve Rotondi noted that the CPA is a mixed blessing given that, by law, we can tax businesses at 100% or exclude them completely from the CPA.
5. An e-mail from Michael Gallerani was discussed concerning the identification and protection 1950's and 60's architecturally significant buildings and signs. The members expressed concern about overriding the new sign by-law. The members identified only a few 1950's commercial properties (China Moon and Hago Harrington's). Marcia will talk to Michael and do some additional research.
6. Bee Russo talked briefly about the Old Burying Ground project. The Historical Society Board will not fund the project given

because it is municipal property. The latest proposal from Alicia Paresi suggests conserving the headstones first as a way to generate financial and volunteer interest in the OBG. Later we can do the written and photographic inventory. No decision was made.

7. There has been no response to the November letter to Mr. Beregeron regarding Woodland Road. Given the arrival of the new governor and the replacement of his boss Bob Durand, it is possible that Mr. Beregeron is no longer employed at Environmental Affairs. Steve Rotondi reported that Mr. Houghton is still waiting for a response from EOEa regarding the Historic Parkways design guidelines. Steve will pass along a copy of Betsy Friedberg's memo to Mr. Houghton.
8. Marcia Wengen reported that the budget package was due December 18th but Dave Berry told her that he had the letter detailing the request for \$385 for FY '04.
9. Bee presented an article about the Sweetser House along with a floor plan and architectural description. The will be included with the minutes of the meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary