

## **STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

June 4, 2007 - Meeting Minutes  
Stoneham Public Library

*Present:* Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

*Excused:* David Armato

*Guest:* Zachary Kline

The meeting was called to order at 7:27 p.m.

### 1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of the May 8, 2007 were accepted.

### 2. Treasurer's Report

In David's absence, Stephen reported a budget balance of \$280 given the expenses of \$30 for the Heritage Award Certificate and \$75 for the Preservation Month speaker. The members voted to pay \$58.56 for photocopies pertaining to Warrant Article 28 and \$3 for the Heritage Plaque engraving. Chris will submit an invoice for the web hosting of \$39.99. The new balance will be \$178.45. Joan and Marcia were appointed as a subcommittee to spend up to \$175 on preservation related books for our collection in the Stoneham Room and the Children's Library.

### 3. OBG

Zachary Kline presented his plan for an inventory (written and pictorial) of the Old Burying Ground. He is anticipating at least 20 volunteers to work on the project. In lieu of a web based database product that would need development, Chris suggested using EXCEL for quick, columnar entry and offered to show Zack how to convert it to WORD at a later time. Zack anticipates that the next three steps in the approval process could take a while and the project might be delayed until fall. Stephen signed Zachary's project form. Marcia will draft a letter notifying DPW of the pending project.

Joan & Marcia showed pictures of the damaged rear fence and the broken asphalt pieces that have been pushed into the OBG from a Gould Street business. Joan & Marcia were asked to do more research, including but not limited to, measuring the fence, determining ownership, determining the cost of the materials and how the Town could hold the business owner accountable for future damage.

Joan & Marcia were able to find 23 veterans headstones in the OBG of the 41 named on the 1942 WPA map. The map is not completely accurate. We may want to have another look before we declare the headstones missing. Each of the 23 headstones received a 13-star flag for Memorial Day.

### 4. Web Site

Chris is working on the graphics of Spot Pond to mimic the Town's web site.

5. Fire Station/Warrant Article

Warrant Article 28 passed at Town Meeting on May 10 allowing for a preservation restriction to be placed on the 1916 Fire Station. The Request for Proposal for qualified consultants to conduct an Architectural/Structural Assessment and Feasibility Study was issued on May 23. Twenty-five copies have been mailed, faxed or picked-up in person. Eleven architectural firms attended the site visit on May 31. Five of those firms are on the MHC list of architects who have done this kind of work previously. MHC will release the \$60,000 allocation provided they approve the contract between Stoneham and a qualified architect by June 28. David Ragucci appointed as selection committee consisting of Joe Rolli, Fire Chief, Bob Grover, Town Engineer and DPW Director, Stephen Born, architect and member of the Finance Board and Marcia Wengen, Historical Commission. Town Administrator David Ragucci and Attorney Solomon will negotiate the contract.

6. Heritage Award

Stephen received a thank you note from Bee Russo. Marcia will follow-up with the Stoneham Independent about the picture and story.

7. Preservation Month

Dee Morris spoke about "Victorian Soda Fountains" at the May 17 joint meeting of the Historical Society and the Historical Commission. The talk was enjoyed by all.

8. MHC Meeting

Stephen reported on the May 9 consultation meeting regarding Langwood Commons and the DCR Vision for the Fellsway. Legal counsel for the Gutierrez Company stated that they could live with the plan to slow traffic by making the south bound lane available to pedestrians and cyclists and the north bound lane changing to one lane north and south for vehicular traffic. Another impact study is being required.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday June 18 at 7:00 PM. To be discussed: Final Addresses, the Bikeway, Town Day and other appropriate topics.

The meeting ended at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary