

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 5, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen

Excused: Joan Quigley *Absent:* Tammy Ford

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of February 6, 2012 were approved

2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account was approved. Outstanding invoices: \$16.50 for deed research parking, \$25 NARA research and \$10 for 8 Morrison Av research at the Historical Society

3. Website

- No report in Tammy's absence.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications.
- A review of the March 1st list showed five properties in various stages of research: 523 Main St, 193 Franklin St, 91 Marble St, 3 Morrison Ave, 13A Hersam St
- A presentation will be scheduled for the 1852 Almshouse marker, probably at a Council on Aging meeting.

5. Burial Ground

- Town Meeting of February 7 approved the release of \$40,000 from the Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest account. Twenty thousand will be reimbursed at completion of the project. It was reported that Mr. and Mrs. Towse objected to the use of 'Lindenwood' perpetual care money for this project to Selectman Rotondi and Marcia Wengen.
- Marcia presented an 1879 Report of the Trustees of Lindenwood Cemetery in which they described their care of Lindenwood, the William Street Cemetery and the Old Burying Ground.
- Marcia discussed an 'adopt-a-gravestone' fundraising idea, if there is no municipal money available for the next round of grants.
- Marcia reported that Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC and her team won the bid for the development of a Preservation Master Plan for the OBG. The start-up meeting is scheduled for tomorrow morning at 10 am in the Town Hall conference room.
- The GPS survey of the OBG is complete and Dan Dragani sent electronic copies to Martha Lyon today.
- J. Parker Gould's military papers arrived today and were given to Steve Rotondi to pass along to Ralph Barile.
- There is no status update from Gamit Signs on the Old Burying Ground sign.

- Marcia noted the 1941 newspaper article she found about J. Parker Gould's sword. Steve was not hopeful that the Historical Society would release the sword for use at the Lindenwood re-dedication program.
6. Adaptive Reuse
- The North School RFP has been released and proposals are due Tuesday March 27. A briefing/walk-thru is scheduled for Wed. March 7 at 2 p.m.
 - Marcia reviewed the three acceptable construction options: single family homes, owner occupied condominiums, or an assisted living complex. If the school is demolished, a 10% donation will be made to the Historical Commission Donation Account. Marcia believes the proceeds from the sale of the land and building will go into the capital fund. Steve respectfully disagreed noting the possibility that any 'new' money could be divided between the town and the schools.
 - Both Paul and Margaret reported seeing this project described in the print and electronic media. This was in addition to the wider than usual coverage of the legal notices.
7. New Business
- Members made minor edits to the advertisement for Heritage Award nominations and suggested it be placed with both local newspapers, Stoneham Patch and Know Our Town.
 - Terms expire for Marcia and Paul on April 30th. Letters to re-apply will be accepted on or after March 19.
8. Open Forum
- Steve reminded us of the March 15th meeting at the Historical Society with Ken Gloss and the March 22th presentation at the Book Oasis by a civil war reenactor.

The meeting ended at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary