

## **STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

November 5, 2012 - Meeting Minutes  
Stoneham Public Library

*Present:* Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Tammy Ford, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m.

### 1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of October 2, 2012 were approved with the correction of the encumbered money amount to from \$270.51 to \$278.51

### 2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,526 in the donation account was approved. Sixty dollars was raised in donations at the OBG Open House on October 27. \$278.51 remains encumbered from FY '12 for the Tidd sign. The invoice for signage and wooden stakes (around the hazardous gravestones) totaled \$34.53 and was voted unanimously to be paid from the operating fund.

### 3. Web Site

- Tammy reported no progress on the web site. She will meet with Tom Cicatelli. The web page is out of date with respect to the 2012 Heritage Award winner and the house markers.

### 4. Historic House Marker Program

- Joanne reported that the owner of 79 Hancock Street is interested in a marker and has completed the necessary research. Her brother-in-law at 523 Main Street is also interested in a marker. Joanne and Margaret will decide which of several occupations of the original owner should be on the marker. There are no additional applications.
- Margaret has four markers: 49 Perkins, 13A Hersam, 3 Morrison Ave, 91 Marble. She will photograph them and distribute.

### 5. Burial Ground

- Tammy reported that the OBG video "Final Addresses" is complete except for the music. She will be in touch with Reference Librarian about using equipment to show the video to us at the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
- Marcia reported 127 people, including trick-or-treaters, visited the OBG Open House. Although we had no costumed interpreters, people borrowed maps or just wandered. Two people came seeking their distant relatives: from Melrose-the Green family and from Woburn-the Vinton and Messer families. Three researchers (Reading, Melrose & Stoneham) came to photograph gravestones for the Find-A-Grave web page.
- Marcia asked that we have more help from the Commission members next year.
- Marcia noted that Mark Todisco recommended the lighter background color for the new OBG sign and she agreed without checking with Commission members in an effort to have the sign installed for the Open House.

### 6. Tidd Gates

- Marcia has heard nothing from Mary Marchant who was concerned about the accuracy of the text on Mr. Tidd's sign.
- Given that the original picture of Mr. Tidd's property is framed and not allowed out of the building, Commission members will research other repositories. Steve reminded us that the local livery service owner comes from the Tidd family.

- Marcia noted that Marina Memmo is willing to bring her digital camera and flatbed scanner to the HS to attempt a photo or scan of the picture. The only known photo of Mr. Tidd is in Stevens' History of Stoneham. Marina has 'photoshopped' it to improve the quality and cropped it to include his head and shoulders only.
- The Cambridge Tire Building at 454 Main Street has not been demolished yet.

#### 7. Community Preservation Act (CPA)

- Marcia noted that 29 copies for the CPA Q&A packet were handed out at the OBG Open House. Given that the Commission has not taken a formal vote on the CPA, Steve recommended that the signage read "learn about the CPA" rather than "support or vote yes on the CPA". This is also necessary given that it is illegal to advocate a given position on municipal property.
- Joan noted that John Warren has been busy with Jason Lewis' campaign but she expects he will pickup the CPA project again soon.
- Paul noted that he has heard from interested friends and neighbors regarding the ball fields. Occasionally he encounters residents who have no knowledge of the CPA.

#### 8. New Business

- Commission members voted to send a 'no adverse effect' letter regarding the installation of T-Mobile telecommunications equipment in the steeple of St Patrick Church.
- Joan & Margaret discussed the recent e-mail regarding the Massachusetts Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission's program 'Treasures in the Attic'. Margaret will forward the email to all of us for discussion at the December meeting. The possibility of submitting Marina Memmo's *Baltimore Riot* presentation was suggested.
- Steve plans to be in touch with Ralph Barile regarding the cemetery marker for J. Parker Gould. 2013 is the 150 anniversary of his death. Joan will leave a message on Ancestry.com for any relatives who might be interested in this project.

#### 9. Open Forum - none

The meeting ended at 8:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary