

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 2, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. in the Junior Room.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of September 10, 2012 were approved

2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,466 in the donation account was approved. Twelve dollars was donated at Town Day; \$5 for a 200th anniversary watch fob and \$7 in donations. \$270.51 remains encumbered from FY '12 for the sign.

3. Community Preservation Act (CPA)

- Article 12 to put the CPA question on the April 2nd ballot passed at Town Meeting.
- Steve questioned why the exemptions for senior citizens and commercial property were part of Article 12, rather than being decided over the next 6 months.
- CPA funds are an acceptable source for the 50% match required by the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) should the Historical Commission apply for another grant. Thus if a \$40K project was approved, 50% would be paid by MPPF and 50% would be paid from Stoneham's CPA fund, assuming Town Meeting voted to allow the expenditure.
- After the Town Meeting John Warren was invited to make a CPA presentation at the October 11th Historical Society meeting.

4. Web Site

- No report.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications. Margaret has heard nothing from Ken at Gamit signs on four markers: 49 Perkins, 13A Hersam, 3 Morrison Ave, 91 Marble.
- Marcia reported that she requested a 'friend with influence' to approach Mark Todisco at Gamit Signs about repainting the OBG sign for the Oct 27 Open House.

6. Burial Ground

- Historical Commission members are interested in participating in the annual Halloween Walk since it coincides with the Open House of Oct 27 from 2-4 pm. Marcia will notify the Chamber of Commerce as they are sponsoring the Walk.
- Members voted to allow Marcia to spend up to \$25 of expenses related to the Open House, including candy, signage, stakes to mark the 'hazardous' gravestones, etc.
- For the Open House: Marcia will submit an article to the local media and create a poster for placement at Stoneham TV, currently the last stop on the walk.
- In Tammy's absence there is no report on the OBG video 'Final Addresses'.

7. Cell Tower

- No visible progress on the Verizon installation of three faux chimneys on Dow Block.
- The 'no adverse effect' letter was sent regarding the MetroPCS NE request to add dish antennas on the existing telecommunications facility atop the building at 7 Stonehill Drive.

8. Tidd Gates

- Steve noted that the Tidd mansion picture in the Historical Society is framed and Mary Marchant would prefer not to remove it to be scanned. Marcia will inquire of Boston Computer Scanning about the framed picture.
- The Cambridge Tire Building at 454 Main Street has not been demolished yet.
- Steve questioned if the encumbered money could be held beyond June, 2013.

9. Woodland Road Improvements

- As agreed at last month's meeting, Marcia wrote a letter replying to the Mass Historical Commission's invitation to participate in the requested consultation regarding DCR's proposed pedestrian and roadway improvements along Woodland. Road.

10. Adaptive Reuse

- As voted at last month's meeting, a letter was sent to the Town Administrator recommending that the owners of East School be allowed to penetrate the north, east, and south walls of the 1938 East School for gas fireplace vents.
- The sale of North School has been delayed because the legal notification to surrounding towns was not timely. Article ?? regarding North School zoning was indefinitely postponed at Town Meeting. The legal ad from the Attorney General's office (AGO) was placed in the Independent on September 12. It is expected that the AGO will approve the zoning change after the Columbus Day holiday and the sale can move forward.

11. Town Day

- Good weather and a high turnout of people made a successful Town Day. All 50 copies of the Community Preservation Act fact sheet were handed out. Reactions ranged from no knowledge to general familiarity with the Act. There was also interest in the OBG Open House and the House Marker program.

12. New Business

- Steve made note of the murder mystery night on October 19 to raise money for the Public Library.

13. Open Forum - none

The meeting ended at 8:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary