

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 6, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Absent: Joanne DiMambro

Guest: Taryn Patrick, Wellman Associates

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of September 8, 2008 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

In the treasurer's absence, Steve reported a \$325 balance because of the \$60 for the pens given out at Town Day. Steve signed the town accounting form of authorized signatures. Marcia will ask Joanne to sign it also.

3. Book Presentation

The Commission presented Mary Todd with six books on various preservation topics and a CD of the 2007 Old Burying Ground inventory completed by Zack Kline for his Eagle Scout Leadership Project.

4. Cell Antenna Proposal for Dow Building – Section 106 review

- Ms. Taryn Patrick presented new zoning maps and photo simulations for two 9' fiberglass stealth flue enclosures that resemble smokestacks, located on the east and west sides of the roof. They will conceal the cell antennas. A condenser will be located on the roof and the cables will be inside the building.
- The top of the antenna is 69' on one side and 70'6" on the other side and within the 15' allowed by town code.
- The members voted 4-1 to accept the proposal as presented. Ms. Patrick asked that a letter be sent to Cheryl Noble, Building Inspector, notifying her of the Commission's approval.

5. Fire Station

- A copy of the contract with the Office of Travel & Tourism was distributed. We will use the \$125,000 for historic 6/1 windows to replace the existing vinyl clad windows from 1991. The Town has received \$31,250 of the \$125,000.
- At least 85% of the painting was completed on September 15. We are awaiting the arrival of the 6 overhead doors. Specifications call for them to be pre-primed, but the final color, New England Green, will need to be applied before the weather turns cold.

6. Web Site

Chris put the House Plaque program on the web site but it is “not pretty”. He will reload the software.

7. Town Day

- Town Day generated much interest in the House Plaques, especially in the afternoon. 43 applications were distributed.
- Two visitors to the booth reported that their houses are/were haunted. Joan plans to follow up with them for a Halloween video that she and her friend Denise are creating.

8. House Plaque Program

- One application has been submitted for 119 Franklin Street.
- The plaque and applications will be displayed at the Oct 16 Historical Society meeting and Oct 26 Historical Society Open House.

9. Final Address Project

No progress.

10. New Business

- The members agreed to open and staff the Old Burying Ground on Sunday October 26 from 2-4 pm, when the Historical Society is having their Open House. Joan will speak with Zack Kline to see if he can be present to answer questions about the inventory project.
- The members agreed that there is “no adverse effect” to historical properties due to the I-93 roadway resurfacing project. Steve will sign a letter to Mass Highway and Mass Historical Commission.
- The members agreed to support Rick Johnson’s request for a preservation restriction on the 1842 Warren Sweetser House at 90 Franklin Street. Steve will sign a letter to Chairman John DePinto urging the Selectmen to show their support for property owners to renovate and maintain historic buildings in Stoneham.

The meeting ended at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary