

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 3, 2002 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan

Absent: Peter Bracciotti

The meeting began at 7:43 PM with the minutes from the May 13th meeting being accepted as written. The following business was transacted:

1. Bee noted that the photo and text of the Heritage Award to the Mayo Family was submitted to the Stoneham Independent and the Stoneham Sun for publication. The lack of response from the Selectmen at the presentation was noted.
2. Rosemarie noted that Peter Bracciotti was appointed by the Town Administrator to work on the fire station feasibility study.
3. Bee confirmed that the joint Historical Society and Commission meeting is set for Thursday June 13th with Chris Saccardi from the Community Preservation Coalition as guest speaker. She will arrange for the press releases, a mailing to the Historical Society members, and flyers delivered to the Town Hall mailboxes.
4. The members were reminded about the meeting on June 4th concerning the Routes 93 and 128 interchange feasibility study. Steve noted that 100 +/- homes could be taken by eminent domain.
5. Peggy reported that the 2002 Unclassified Supplemental Budget has no funds designated for the Historical Commission use. She will present the outstanding invoices for the Heritage Award, travel to a grant writing seminar and photocopying to the Town Administrator along with estimates for expenses related to the June 13th meeting. Our annual donation of a historical magazine subscription to the High School, our membership in the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and an honorarium to the Historical Society for the joint meeting are on hold. Peggy will discuss the 2003 budget and the feasibility

- of having our own department account code with the Town Administrator and Accountant.
6. Bee noted that our meeting minutes and attendance list need to be submitted to Muriel Doherty. Rosemarie will send the required information for her tenure as secretary. Marcia is responsible for tonight's and future minutes. Marcia will prepare an updated list of members/titles for Muriel Doherty and for Chris Skelley at the Mass Historical Commission.
 7. Marcia distributed copies of the Mass General Laws related to the establishment of local historical commissions (M.G.L. Chapter 40: Section 8D), community preservation committee (M.G.L. 44B: Section 5) and special assessments for historic owner-occupied residences (M.G.L. 59: Section 5J).
 8. Marcia reported on the progress of identifying Daniel Price, Fireman, 1st Class in the Spanish American War as a Stoneham resident. The pension records from 1861-1934 are available on microfilm at the Waltham office of the National Archives and are reported to be a good place to begin researching Spanish American War soldiers. She will continue the research over the summer. Betty noted the resources she used to research Daniel Price, none of which provided any information about him.
 9. Marcia reported that Dick Watts researched the question about audio/video recordings for the historical society web page. While he has no personal experience with either process, he believes both can be done. Three major drawbacks exist: a) disk space (the web page has 15MG of free space, above that a monthly fee is required), b) software would need to be purchased to transfer audio and video and c) the time involved to manually make the transfers. He would be interested in speaking with someone who has done both processes, if we know anyone. The name of Jim Carino, Media Specialist at the High School was mentioned along with Brian Clapp, MIS Manager for the Town of Stoneham.
 10. None of the members know if Peter Bracciotti sent the letter regarding the Central School to the School Committee.
 11. Marcia noted that in the Public Library's Five-Year Plan there is a goal for the Librarian to work with the Town Clerk to preserve town documents. She will do additional research about how this process works and report back to the members. Steve noted

- that the Town is required to send certain documents to the State Archives.
12. The committee members agreed on the following meeting dates in 2002–2003: Sept 9, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 3, April 7, May 5, June 2. Marcia will book the dates with the Debbie Cunningham, Steve Rotondi and the Town Clerk's Office. She will also check the Commission's mail box in the Town Hall periodically. She noted that we have permission from the Town Administration to use the mailing services of the Town for Commission business.
 13. Marcia referenced the Historic Days now in progress in Waltham and questioned if such an event might be possible in Stoneham. The members discussed the success of a previous trolley tour of the Town's historic sites. Marcia will mail copies of the Waltham article to the members.
 14. Marcia submitted the Commission's Wish/Needs List to the Grant Team, chaired by Michael Gallerani. Marcia will mail copies of the list to the members. Mr. Gallerani provided a number of possible grant options and offered to assist us in applying for any of these grants. Marcia will review the options and report to the members.
 15. The committee members approved a thank you letter to the Public Works/Cemetery employees for their cleanup of the historic Lindenwood Cemetery after last week's overflow of Sweetwater Brook. The letter will be sent to the editors of both the Independent and the Sun.

The meeting ended at 9:00 P.M.

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 9, 2002 -- Meeting Minutes

Rotondi Travel

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan

Absent: Peter Bracciotti

The meeting began at 8:02 PM with the minutes from the June 3, 2002 being distributed. The following business was transacted:

1. Peggy distributed the Treasurer's Report listing paid expenses for FY 2002. Because there is no 2003 Historical Commission budget, Peggy will submit reimbursement requests directly to Dave Berry. Commission members need to put a 2004 budget together for Peggy to submit in December. There are three options for the Commission's funds: a) kept under its own code, b) kept in the Town Administrator's budget or c) kept in the Selectmen's budget.
2. Rosemarie will contact Peter Bracciotti to determine if he sent the letter to the School Committee regarding the reuse of the Central School on William Street.
3. Christopher Saccardi will be invited to make another Community Preservation Act (CPA) presentation on Wednesday November 20, 2002. Marcia will draft a letter to be reviewed by the Commission members at the next meeting. Potential invitees include the Selectmen, the Finance and Advisory Board, the community planning sector teams, the Conservation Commission, the Open Space and Recreation Committee, the School Committee and the Spot Pond Committee.
4. Bee reviewed the progress to date on Alicia Paresi's \$4,000 proposal to inventory and photograph the gravestones in the Old Burying Ground (OBG). Funding alternatives include raising the money by donations, utilizing the \$1,500 in the Historical Society Education Fund, convincing the Selectmen to sponsor a warrant to access funds in the Cemetery Perpetual Care fund, acquiring 100 signatures for a Historical Commission warrant to access these funds or any combination thereof. All of the

- Commission members are interested in being involved with this project and agree that it makes sense for both organizations to work together. Bee will have further discussion with the Historical Society Board members next Monday and report back to the Commission.
5. Bee noted that the owner of 114 Marble Street had contacted her. The house, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is for sale and a prospective buyer asked if an addition could be put on the rear of the house. Bee believes this is acceptable. Steve noted that a rear addition was put on the c. 1700 Green Street house. Marcia will e-mail Chris Skelly for confirmation and also ask him about removing property from the Register.
 6. Marcia reported that there is no information on Daniel Price at the National Archives in Waltham, the Stoneham Town Clerk's office or the Massachusetts National Guard Military Archives & Museum in Worcester. Letters have been mailed to Middlesex Probate Court in East Cambridge, MA and the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, MO.
 7. Steve recommended that the Historical Commission write a letter supporting the Gutierrez project at the BMRC site. He will seek an opinion from Attorney Houghton and, if his response is positive, draft a letter for the Commission members to read at the next meeting.
 8. Marcia distributed a letter dated August 8, 2002 from the Massachusetts Historical Commission concerning the Gutierrez project expressing "its concerns that the roadway improvements will have impacts upon the character-defining features of the historic parkways and park roads".

The meeting ended at 9:14 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 9, 2002 -- Meeting Minutes

Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan

The meeting began at 7:35 PM with the minutes from the September 9, 2002 being distributed and approved. Each member signed a receipt for the Town Clerk's booklet on the Open Meeting Law, Conflict of Interest Law, etc.

The following business was transacted:

1. Peggy O'Keefe spoke about the 2004 budget. David Berry requested that the Historical Commission write a letter listing the funding needs for 2004 and asking to be included in the budget process. Upon receipt of the letter, David will be sending Peggy a budget package for 2004. He will ask Ron Florino about the feasibility of setting up a separate account for the Historical Commission. The committee members talked about potential items, including \$699 for the rental of a trolley for the 20th Town Day. Rosemarie will check previous budgets to be sure we leave nothing out.
2. Peter Bracciotti read the letter to the School Committee requesting that we work together to find an appropriate use for the 1900 Central School. He will sign it and send copies to the Superintendent, the Selectmen, the Historical Society, Michael Gallerani and David Berry.
3. The Committee reviewed the letter inviting members of various Town boards and committees to attend a presentation on the Community Preservation Act (Nov 20th). It was decided to add the Bike and Greenway Committee, the Town Administrator and Director of Economic Development, but not the general public. The Historical Commission will act as facilitator only for this presentation. Assuming the response is positive, the Historical Commission would be one component of a group to move the project forward. No agreement was reached on how audience feedback would be obtained.
4. Bee Russo discussed the Old Burying Ground inventory project. The Historical Society Executive Board sees this as a

- Town project and believes that funding should come from the municipality and/or donations. Bee will investigate the question of whether the Town Accountant can transfer money from the perpetual care fund, thus eliminating the need for a warrant at Town Meeting. Marcia will check with Tony Kennedy for a dollar amount that the Town would be willing to commit.
5. There is no further information on Daniel Price, Spanish American War serviceman killed in the line of duty.
 6. Steve Rotondi reported that Attorney Houghton and his client, Mr. Gutierrez, were unable to attend tonight's meeting to discuss the BRMC roadway improvements and the impact they will have on the historic roadways. Steve will write a letter to the Massachusetts Historical Commission asking for their prospective on the Gutierrez project. Marcia will write a letter to the Attorney inviting him and his client to the next meeting. She will mail the Environmental Impact Report to all members.
 7. Peter Bracciotti updated the members on the progress of the Fire Station task force in choosing an engineering firm to conduct a study on replacing or renovating the 1916 building. From a field of 20 firms, the Maguire Group of Foxboro was chosen. They have engineers and architects on staff and extensive previous experience with public safety buildings.
 8. Bee Russo noted that the Historical Society's Executive Board is most concerned about the possible loss of yet another building that helps define the character of the Central District. The Society's Board will be sending a letter to the editors of both newspapers expressing their concerns about the Fire Station.
 9. Bee Russo also alerted the members to the Oct 2nd Christian Science Monitor article "Conserving American character, town by town" that included nine photos of Stoneham's fast food and strip malls exemplifying loss of unique local color.

The meeting ended at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 4, 2002 -- Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan

1. The meeting began at 7:30 PM with the arrival of Attorney Charles Houghton to discuss Mr. Gutierrez's proposed BRMC roadway improvements, the impact they will have on the historic parkways and what alternatives Mr. Gutierrez is considering to address Massachusetts Historical Commission's (MHC) concerns. Mr. Houghton stated that his client is waiting on guidelines from the MHC.

He indicated that he is moving forward with the necessary MEPA (Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act) requirements and that the building project will have a 5-year time frame. He believes the drainage problems have an appropriate solution and that his client has agreed to meet with the Selectmen and Miriam Regan-Fiore's group to discuss the traffic issues. The Stoneham Conservation Commission members toured the site, identified a few minor violations but are basically in agreement with the project plans.

Steve and Marcia will draft letters to the MHC and the MDC's Historic Parkways Initiative in an attempt to obtain design guidelines and hopefully broker a meeting with the appropriate parties.

2. The response to the CPA educational forum has been poor (6 "yes" and 5 "no" out of 101 individuals) with no RSVP's from the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, School Committee, Housing Authority or Finance and Advisory Board. Marcia will identify the five chairpersons and write letters asking them to send at least one representative to the meeting.

3. The committee reviewed a letter regarding the installation of telecommunications antennas at 159 Franklin Street (Villa Grande) that are deemed "unlikely to affect significant historic resources" by the Massachusetts Historic Commission.

4. Peter Bracciotti reported that the Maguire Group is expected to deliver a report to the Fire Station study group detailing location options, costs and impacts of both a refurbished and a new central fire station. The ideal solution would be to erect a new station in a location within a half-mile of the existing building. One of the issues with the 1916 station is that it was not built to withstand seismic events.

5. Steve Rotondi requested Chris Saccardi's phone number, as the Rotarians are interested in having him speak about the Community Preservation Act.

6. Bee Russo reported that Town Accountant Ron Florino confirmed that any expenditures (principle or interest) from the Perpetual Care Fund need to be "appropriated" by a vote at Town Meeting. He is willing to revisit the subject in January to see if there is any "free cash" in the DPW operating budget that might be available without a warrant for the Old Burying Ground project.

7. Bee Russo noted that the packet of information from the National Trust for Historic Preservation on "Funding for Rehabilitating a Historic Home" would be a good handout at the Historic Society's Research Days in February.

8. Rosemarie McDonald sent a letter to David Berry regarding the Historic Commission budget for 2004 of \$385 and wish list of \$700.

The meeting ended at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 2, 2002 -- Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan

Excused: Peggy O'Keefe

1. The meeting began at 7:41 PM with the distribution of the following documents: a.) minutes from the November 4th meeting, b.) a letter regarding the installation of telecommunications equipment at Stonehill Towers and c.) a letter from the School Committee.
2. Rosemarie McDonald recommended tabling the project to investigate the adaptive reuse of the 1901 Central School for the foreseeable future, given the School Committee's ongoing needs for the space.
3. The members discussed the November 20th CPA educational forum. Peter Braccoitti spoke about demonstrating that the CPA can lower the overall tax burden to residents because of the matching funds. Specific projects could include historical markers, renovations to the two cemeteries, assisting homeowners with renovation projects or perhaps even buying a historical property and adapting it for affordable housing. Items on the "to do" list include: a) contacting John Warren, Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, for an opinion once all the members have read the material and had time to comment, b.) contacting Chris Saccardi for sample press releases that we might use for a newspaper campaign, c.) finding someone from another CPA city or town who would be willing to speak with us about various strategies for promoting this endeavor.
4. Peter Bracciotti reported that the Maguire Group delivered the report to the Fire Station study group detailing location options, costs and impacts of both a refurbished and a new central fire station. He noted that one of the group's members, Jan Houghton, is developing a campaign that promotes the relocation of the new fire station. The study group is considering a warrant for the May Town Meeting. Bee Russo reported on the Historical

Society's efforts to sponsor a series of newspaper articles outlining the history of the fire station, and perhaps developing a town wide event for Preservation Month.

5. The members discussed the failure of the Adult Day Care Center Project destined for the Senior Center Barn. At one time the Barn was considered for a community arts center but it would appear the Stoneham cReaTeS is fulfilling that role in the church building at 53 Central Street.
6. Rosemarie McDonald will attempt to get reimbursement for the cost of mailing labels for the CPA invitations. It is unclear if the Town will pay for volunteer committee members to attend seminars. Marcia Wengen will contact Mr. Berry to see if the FY 2003 budget packages are available.

The meeting ended at 8:51 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 6, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe,
Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, and Marcia Wengen
Excused: Betty Whelan

1. The meeting began at 7:35 PM with the distribution of the following documents: a.) minutes from the December 2nd meeting, b.) a letter from Betsy Friedberg of the Mass Historical commission to the Department of the Interior requesting an expedited review of Greater Boston and Middlesex Fells Parkways for National Register nomination.
2. John Warren from the Finance Board was present for the discussion of the CPA. Although the Board will not spearhead a CPA project, they will help with the financial aspects and presentations at Town Meeting. Several options were identified to present CPA information including approaching the seniors, the 6 PTO's and providing neighborhood venues to get the word out. At least one key project (perhaps the 1916 fire station) needs to be identified. Timing will be a consideration given the recent reassessment and the increase in real estate taxes.
3. Marcia will contact John Hoyland from Bedford about speaking to us at the February meeting concerning his CPA initiative. Marcia will research the possibility of having a speaker from Wakefield (Nancy Bertrand) or Reading (Virginia Adams) where the CPA failed to pass.
4. Steve Rotondi noted that the CPA is a mixed blessing given that, by law, we can tax businesses at 100% or exclude them completely from the CPA.
5. An e-mail from Michael Gallerani was discussed concerning the identification and protection 1950's and 60's architecturally significant buildings and signs. The members expressed concern about overriding the new sign by-law. The members identified only a few 1950's commercial properties (China Moon and Hago Harrington's). Marcia will talk to Michael and do some additional research.
6. Bee Russo talked briefly about the Old Burying Ground project. The Historical Society Board will not fund the project given

because it is municipal property. The latest proposal from Alicia Paresi suggests conserving the headstones first as a way to generate financial and volunteer interest in the OBG. Later we can do the written and photographic inventory. No decision was made.

7. There has been no response to the November letter to Mr. Beregeron regarding Woodland Road. Given the arrival of the new governor and the replacement of his boss Bob Durand, it is possible that Mr. Beregeron is no longer employed at Environmental Affairs. Steve Rotondi reported that Mr. Houghton is still waiting for a response from EOEa regarding the Historic Parkways design guidelines. Steve will pass along a copy of Betsy Friedberg's memo to Mr. Houghton.
8. Marcia Wengen reported that the budget package was due December 18th but Dave Berry told her that he had the letter detailing the request for \$385 for FY '04.
9. Bee presented an article about the Sweetser House along with a floor plan and architectural description. The will be included with the minutes of the meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 3, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen and Betty Whelan

Excused: Peter Bracciotti

- 1) The meeting began at 7:43 PM with the distribution of the following documents: a.) minutes from the January 6th meeting b.) a chronology on Daniel Price drawn from papers located at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington DC.
- 2) John Warren arrived for the planned CPA presentation by Jeff Hoyland of Bedford, MA. Mr. Hoyland did not appear. Marcia will contact him.
- 3) The members discussed the fate of the Old Central School with John Warren. Apparently there are several bidders, including the SEEM Collaborative, who are interested in renting the space for July 1st. He also noted that the Colonial Park renovations are ahead of schedule and the Robin Hood renovations are on schedule.
- 4) John reminded the members of the free March 1st CPA Forum in Bedford. Marcia will re-send the e-mail notice from Chris Saccardi to the members.
- 5) The members approved the minutes from the January 6, 2003 meeting.
- 6) The members reviewed the information on Daniel Price, born Daniel Breslin on 3/1/1870 in Ireland. He immigrated in 1889 and likely lived at 27 Pine Street. Rosemarie will review the paperwork from NARA. Betty will look for his name in the Historical Society Valuation Books. Marcia will contact Joe DiSisto to determine if there are residency requirements for veterans to be honored. Steve has several locations in mind for his memorial plaque, including North Main Street and the island between Mass Bank and the Mobil station.
- 7) Marcia will ask Dave Berry about the status of the \$385 budget for FY'04.
- 8) Bee presented the Massachusetts Historical Commission's 25th Annual Preservation Awards nomination form. She will check with

Rick Johnson to see if he is interested in nominating the Sweetser House. She will also check to see if the Stoneham Theatre nomination can be resubmitted given that the dates are January 1999 through December 2002. Apparently the photographs were not returned from the previous submission.

- 9) Bee reminded the members that the Old House Fair is at the Cyclorama Building this coming weekend (Feb 8th and 9th).
- 10) Steve asked that the Historical Commission write a letter supporting the Gutierrez project at the BMRC site. Marcia expressed concern that the members have not seen the plans for roadway improvements. Rosemarie asked Marcia to send a second request for information to the EOEA.

The meeting ended at 8:58 PM

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 7, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes prefer
Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen and Betty Whelan

Excused: Peggy O'Keefe

- 1) The meeting began at 7:35 PM with the distribution of the following documents: a.) the Treasurer's report listing expenses of \$107.68 year to date, b.) minutes from the February 3, 2003 meeting, c.) a February 28, 2003 letter from the Massachusetts Historical Commission declaring that interior cosmetic renovations to 38 Pleasant Street are "unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources" d.) an update on Daniel Breslin/Price dated April 4, 2003 and e.) a floor plan and architectural description of the Warren Sweetser House now located at 90 Franklin Street.
- 2) Marcia reviewed her research at NARA in Waltham regarding the arrival by ship of Daniel Breslin from Ireland. The closest match is a farmer arriving in 1887 at age 28. We know from Daniel's birth records he would have been 17 ½ years old and this arrival is two years earlier than stated in his brother's deposition to the U.S. Navy. The valuation books of that era do not list him as paying a poll tax or owning property. Both Joe Desisto and Fred Mosley are unaware of any specific requirements for dedicating a "square", beyond making a formal request to the Selectmen. Rosemarie requested that Marcia ask Mr. Grover at DPW for a cost estimate to make and erect a sign.
- 3) Bee reported that the deadline is past for nominations for the Massachusetts Historical Commission's 25th Annual Preservation Awards. New photographs would have been required to re-nominate the Stoneham Theatre.
- 4) The members discussed potential candidates for the Heritage Award. There are several beautifully restored houses (Flint Ave and Virginia Lane) that are not on the National Register but may be worthy of consideration. Bee will place a notice in the newspapers for nominations from the public with a May 2nd deadline.

- 5) Due to the Town Meeting on May 5th, the next meeting of the Historical Commission will be May 12th, location to be determined.
- 6) Betty reported that she is actively seeking a speaker for Preservation Month. The joint session with the Historical Society could be held in the Library as that location seems to generate more interest.
- 7) Marcia asked about the Commission's policy on historic house signage. The owner of an 1842 house on Summer St. questioned her about a plaque. The house has not been nominated to the National Register. Steve pointed out that the Town's new sign by-law requires that the Commission approve house plaques. Marcia will research.
- 8) Steve asked for clarification on the National Register status of the fire station. Marcia agreed to check the records but was almost certain that the entire building, not just the tower, is on the Register.
- 9) Marcia will check the National Register status of 38 Pleasant St. and e-mail the members.
- 10) Steve noted that C.I. Lewis, a Harvard philosopher, was born in Stoneham and might be worth researching to see if he's buried in Lindenwood Cemetery.
- 11) Marcia explained the fund raising project Jane Lavender; director of the Senior Center has in mind for the Sunday after Town Day. The members agreed to invite Jane to the next meeting to discuss what role the Historic Commission might play.
- 12) Marcia plans to apply for reappointment to the Commission. She has been told by Tony Kennedy to wait for the notice to appear in the local papers.
- 13) Bee Russo will not seek reappointment to the Commission. She wants to concentrate her efforts on her role as Historical Society President.

The meeting ended at 8:53 PM

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 12, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes prefer
Stop & Shop Conference Room

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Bee Russo, Marcia Wengen and Betty Whelan

- 1) The meeting began at 7:29 PM with the distribution of the following documents: a.) minutes from the April 7, 2003 meeting, b.) draft of advertisement for the speaker at the joint meeting in June.
- 2) Jane Lavender, Senior Center Director, presented her ideas for an event on September 14th to raise money for operating expenses and capital projects that were cut in the FY 2004 budget. Committee members agreed to work on a script of Stoneham history that would be used for trolley tours given that day. A draft needs to be ready for August 1st. Marcia volunteered to coordinate the efforts of the Historical Society and Commission members.
- 3) The members discussed this year's recipient of the Heritage Award. Steve reminded the members that it is given to a person, business or organization for preserving the historical past of the town. Donna Weiss was the unanimous choice. Her c. 1750 homestead is on the State Register, she is an active member of the Historical Society and she is a generous citizen who funded two ballfields at the High School last year on land that once belonged to Weiss Farm. Rosemarie reported that Bee would arrange for the plaque. Rosemarie will notify the Selectmen.
- 4) The following officers were nominated and accepted the positions: Steve Rotondi, President, Betty Whelan, Vice President, Peggy O'Keefe, Treasurer and Marcia Wengen, Secretary. Marcia will prepare a list of new officers and a package of meeting minutes for the Town Clerk and the Selectmen. MHC will be notified.
- 5) Mr. Christopher Willard has been appointed the HC for 3 years.
- 6) Peggy reminded the members that receipts are required for reimbursement by the Town.
- 7) Marcia distributed the State Register Nomination form on the fire station from May 1979 indicating that the entire building, not just the hose drying tower, is on the State Register.
- 8) Peggy will check with the Dearth family to see if they are related to Hannah Carlyn (Dearth) Lewis, wife of C.I. Lewis. Mr. Lewis was a

noted philosopher and Harvard professor, born the Stoneham in 1883 on Congress Street.

- 9) The members discussed and approved the request by Dr. Peter Pacos to document various Stoneham landmarks, including Cheese Rock. Betty will contact him. Steve noted that his Rotary group might be willing to consider a request for historical markers.
- 10) Marcia reported that the Historic Parkways Guidelines are due out at the end of May. She noted that at the Public Hearing on April 30th, Mr. Houghton indicated that he had a two-page summary of the guidelines.
- 11) Marcia presented the Preservation Mass 2003 Ten Most Endangered Historic Resources Nomination Form and asked for support from the members to nominate the 1916 Fire Station. The members agreed that the timing was not appropriate given that the \$60,000 article was passed at Town Meeting to move forward with property appraisals, design specifications and cost estimates.
- 12) Marcia presented the third draft of a position paper on the Emergency Operations Center and requested that members come prepared to discuss it at the next meeting.
- 13) The members will review the packet of material on Historical House Plaques and be prepared to discuss how a similar program might be implemented in Stoneham. This project could potentially be unveiled at Town Day 2004.
- 14) Marcia briefly discussed the concept of “design ques” and handed out a pencil sketch of a generic Second Empire home with its significant details noted. The designers of the proposed Emergency Operations Center (EOC) could use these “design ques” to create a building that fits with the architecturally significant buildings in the neighborhood.
- 15) In response to a question from Peter, Marcia noted that Mary Marchant, Curator at the Historical Society, identified the two stone gates on Hancock Street as the last remaining vestige of Mr. William Tidd’s Second Empire estate that occupied the corner lot until 1931 when it was razed.
- 16) Rosemarie asked the members to present ideas at the next meeting for a table at Town Day or for the Sunday after Town Day

The meeting ended at 9:14 PM.

Submitted by,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 2, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Margaret O'Keefe, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen and Elizabeth Whelan, Christopher Willard

Excused: Peter Bracciotti

- 1) The meeting began at 7:35 PM. Chairman Rotondi distributed the agenda and welcomed Christopher Willard as the newest Commission member.
- 2) A motion to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2003 was made and seconded. The vote was unanimous.
- 3) Treasurer O'Keefe reported that no money was spent since the last meeting. She will confirm the amount of money allocated to the Historic Commission for 2004 with Mr. Berry.
- 4) The Chairman reported that Donna Weiss called him and is thrilled to receive this year's Heritage Award. The Secretary will arrange for the nameplate to be engraved after the new fiscal year and will also obtain cost estimates for a new plaque vs. an addition to the existing plaque.
- 5) Betty Whelan and Marcia Wengen will be able cover the Historic Commission table for Town Day, as it will be next to the table of Local Cultural Council. Possible handouts might include a survey about the 1916 fire station building and the care of slate roofs.
- 6) The joint meeting sponsored by the Commission and the Society will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday June 23rd at the Society. Dee Morris, a social historian, will speak on Victorian Spiritualism. Bee Russo has notified the newspapers. Flyers have been distributed to the Library, Town Hall, two banks and various merchants in the Square. Betty will notify other libraries. Rosemarie will post the notice at the Dairy Dome and the Inside Scoop.
- 7) The Secretary reported that Mary Pecoraro, Chair of the Selectmen, is very interested in the Community Preservation Act and that Michael Gallerani, Economic Development Director, is more positive about the CPA given that there is an exemption for seniors. Chairman Rotondi tabled the CPA and the Commission will await a recommendation from the Master Plan for the creation of a task force to explore the value of the CPA for Stoneham.

- 8) Chairman Rotondi discussed his recent conversation with Dr. Pacos regarding identification of historic landmarks on MDC land, including Haywardville. Dr. Pacos asked for volunteers. The Secretary will draft a letter to the appropriate person at the MDC for permission to undertake this project.
- 9) The members discussed Daniel Breslin/Price who died when the USS Maine exploded in Havana Harbor. Although he listed his residence as Stoneham, we can find no verification that he owned property or paid a poll tax in the Town's valuation books. The Secretary volunteered to check the last letter to see if additional information from the government is available. A suggestion was made to print a story in the local papers to see if any one might have additional information.
- 10) Peggy O'Keefe reported that Robert Dearth was unaware of any family relationship to C.I. Lewis or his wife Hannah Carlyn Dearth. Mr. Dearth did find it coincidental that his grandmother's last name was Lewis and that he grew up at 12 Congress Street.
- 11) The commission discussed the various aspects of a Historic Plaque Program, including identification of private homes, lost landmarks (Underground Railroad house) and the Town Common. The Chairman noted that the Rotary will be celebrating its 100 anniversary in 2005 and may be willing to fund all or some of such a program. He will raise the issue at the next Rotary Board meeting and report back to us.
- 12) The Commission reviewed the draft of the position paper on the 1916 fire station and recommended that all references to the Hancock Street location be removed.
- 13) Chairman Rotondi reported that Attorney Houghton has reviewed the preliminary guidelines from the Historic Parkway Initiative and stated that they are cosmetic in nature and that his client, Mr. Gutierrez, will has no problem meeting the requirements.
- 14) Chairman Rotondi indicated that Chief Lamey will attend our next meeting to discuss the fire station issues.
- 15) The Secretary distributed a meeting calendar. The next meeting will be September 8th at the Senior Center.
- 16) There was no business discussed in "open forum" and the meeting ended at 8:58 PM.

Submitted by, Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 8, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, and Christopher Willard.

Excused: Betty Whelan

The meeting began at 7:36 PM with the minutes from the June 3rd meeting being accepted as written. The following business was transacted:

1. Peggy O'Keefe gave the Treasurer's report, indicating that we have \$385 in the Town Administrator's budget. The committee approved reimbursement to Marcia Wengen for the following expenses: \$3.00 for the Heritage Award Plaque engraving and \$5.55 for postage to notify homeowners of the trolley tour.
2. The Heritage Award Plaque was engraved with Donna Weiss's name. The cost for a new plaque with 15 nameplates is \$65, but the center shield would not have silver trim. The cost to add a piece of wood with 30 plates is \$72. Marcia will investigate other alternatives with Dinn Brothers.
3. The members tentatively approved the expenditure of \$40 to reimburse Marcia Wengen for registration at the Mass Historical Commission Preservation Conference, pending presentation of a cancelled check. In the future, the members will discuss and vote on which meetings are worth attending, who should attend and how much money, if any, will be taken from the budget to cover educational expenses.
4. Marcia Wengen will draft a grant application for Local Cultural Council funds toward a speaker for Preservation Week. The grant will be reviewed at the next meeting, as it needs to be submitted by October 15th.
5. Chief Lamey is scheduled to attend our October 6th meeting at the Library. Marcia expects some of the members of the Historical Society Board to be present.
6. After some discussion about alternative vendors, the members voted to spend up to \$45 for a banner to be used at Town Day on Saturday. Chris will confirm that Kinkos on Rte. 1 in Saugus is still offering a \$30 product.

7. The members discussed the postponed Trolley Tour to raise funds for the Senior Center's building maintenance fund. Peggy noted that "pay-in-advance" tours have not been well received at either the Library or the Senior Center this year. Chris thought that having a trolley at next year's Town Day might attract "impulse" buyers. We could try to make a deal with the Trolley Company for a percentage of ticket sales or see if the Local Cultural Council would give us a grant for one or more trolleys. Marcia would still like to have the Trolley Tour as a fundraising event for the Senior Center. Chris may prepare a questionnaire to be handed out at Town Day.
8. Steve Rotondi will contact Dr. Paicos and ask him to attend our November 3rd meeting regarding the project to identify historically significant landmarks in the Middlesex Fells. Marcia Wengen will follow-up on the August 13th letter to the Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) asking for their support for the project. After the November meeting, the members will consider setting up a sub-committee to identify all of the town's significant landmarks and perhaps develop a theme.
9. After lengthy discussion, the members tabled to question of writing a letter in support of the Gutierrez Company's mitigation efforts regarding Woodland Road. While Attorney Houghton claims to have preliminary guidelines regarding the Historic Parkway Initiative, Marcia indicated that no such guidelines are available from Betsy Shure-Gross' office in the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). Peter Bracciotti suggested a very creative land swap deal. There will be a 30-day comment period once the Gutierrez Company submits its Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) to EOEA.
10. The members had no warrant articles for the October 27th Town Meeting.
11. The meeting ended at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 6, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, and Christopher Willard.

Guest: Richard Watts, Vice President, Stoneham Historical Society

The meeting began at 7:33 PM with the minutes from the September 8th meeting being accepted as written. The following business was transacted:

1. Peggy O'Keefe gave the Treasurer's report, indicating that we have spent \$53.55 to date. This leaves a balance of \$331.45. Marcia Wengen does not have her cancelled check yet for the Preservation Conference (\$40).
2. Marcia Wengen reported on a successful Town Day. The HC display of an 1878 map of Stoneham, the pictures of adaptively reused firestations and the scale model of the First Congregational Church generated much interest. Approximately 28 people signed up to be notified when the trolley tour is rescheduled. One person took handouts on various preservation topics.
3. After reviewing the options for the Heritage Award plaque, the members voted to spend \$82 to add a 16"x22" board to the existing plaque with 2 rows of nameplates on each side. No decision was reached regarding the suggestion to hang the plaque in the Town Hall.
4. Steve Rotondi reported that Dr. Peter Paicos is planning to attend the November meeting discuss his interest in a project to identify historically significant landmarks in the Middlesex Fells. Chris Willard suggested inviting a representative from the Scouts. Dick Watts suggested inviting the owner of local the mountain bike website.
5. Fire Chief Lawrence Lamey spoke at length regarding the shortcomings of the existing 17,000 sq. ft fire station built in 1916, the needs assessment recommending a 27,000 sq. ft Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the study committee's search for a suitable location, environmental testing of the Hancock St site and appraisals of properties on Hancock and

Emerson Streets, funding mechanisms (increased tax revenues, a bond issue, but not Homeland Security in its current form), and the need for Town Meeting approval.

He answered questions about the Hancock Street location including the concerns about response time and gridlock given that it is 1400' south of the current station. The 27,000 sq. ft. EOC would occupy 45% of the 60,165 sq. ft. lot and provide room for growth over the next 50-100 years.

The costs to build on the current site include destruction of 90% of the 1916 building, at least \$1 million to make the tower seismically stable (if it is retained) and an estimated \$800,000 to replace parking spaces taken for the new building. Chief Lamey believes this is a Band-Aid approach and will not allow the full EOC program to be implemented. The study committee has discussed the adaptive re-use of the 1916 building.

Steve Rotondi and Chris Willard supported the idea of preserving and creatively reusing the 1916 building with the caveat that the HC would not offer an opinion on the location of the new EOC.

6. The members approved the draft of the Local Cultural Council grant for a Preservation Month speaker with the following changes: remove two of the speakers (MassQuilts and Lynne Wilkerson) and reduce the request from \$285 to \$200 (\$150 for the speaker and \$50 for advertising).
7. The meeting ended at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 3, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan, Christopher Willard.

Excused: Peter Bracciotti, Peggy O'Keefe

Guest: William Stokinger, Cultural Resource Specialist, representing the DCR (Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The meeting began at 7:33 PM with the minutes from the October 6th meeting being accepted as written. The following business was transacted:

1. Steve Rotondi explained that although Dr. Peter Paicos would not be able to participate in tonight's meeting as planned. He is seeking permission to identify locations of historical significance in the Middlesex Fells including but not limited to Haywardville and Cheese Rock.

Bill Stokinger anticipates that issuing a permit for the project and borrowing a 4-wheel drive vehicle to get to various sites will be no problem. Once the foliage is gone, the visibility in the Fells will be much improved. Steve will ask Dr. Paicos to contact Bill directly. Bill will also check to see what Geographic Information System (GIS) technology is available at DCR and brief Rene Morin, Fells Supervisor, about the project.

Bill brought a 32x48-silkscreen sign on marine plywood as an example of what can be done and gave us 5 printouts from the Web related to interpretive signage. The sign is 10 years old and cost \$250 at the time. He quoted \$1,500 for a fiberglass embedded sign. The DCR does have signage standards that he will get for us to review.

There may be material written about the Fells by Helen Kinsley and Joseph McAllister at the Historical Society that identifies other sites of significance. Before the 1903 Middlesex Fells map is returned to the Historical Society, Marcia Wengen will make a list of the locations designated on the map.

- Chris Willard will contact Brian Clapp, MIS Manager at Town Hall to see what GIS technology he has that we could use to accurately identify the points of interest.
2. Betty Whelan reported that Peggy O'Keefe is ill but wishes to report that there are no expenses incurred for October.
 3. Marcia Wengen reported that the Heritage Award plaque would be ready by the next meeting.
 4. Marcia Wengen reported that there was little interest by Town Meeting participants in the presentation board depicting adaptively re-used fire stations. Many of the voters were attracted to the exhibit for the condominium development to replace Spot Pond Motel (Warrant Article 8).
 5. Steve Rotondi presented the October 29th Stoneham Sun article with the artist's rendering of a new, expanded fire station at the site of the current firehouse. Since the article is not clear about the status of the 1916 building (demolished and replaced or remaining and added to), it was decided to invite Capt. Joe Rolli to our next meeting. Marcia will contact him.
 6. The members discussed taking a public position that the 1916 fire station building should not be razed. The decision as to whether the Emergency Operations Center goes elsewhere or is created by adding on to the 1916 building is best left to the Study Committee and voted on at Town Meeting. Although a quorum was present, no vote was taken due to the absence of two members who did not participate in the discussion.
 7. Marcia Wengen will check to see if Joanne Harriman's tapes include any history of the fire station.
 8. In Open Forum, Marcia Wengen handed out two articles for consideration at another meeting: "Historic Preservation Week Planning Guide" and an article from the Reading Advocate discussing the Historic Homestead designation offered by the Mass Historic Commission for properties that have been in the same family for 100 years.
 9. The meeting ended at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 1, 2003 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard.

Excused: Betty Whelan.

Guests: Stoneham Fire Department: Captain Joe Rolli, Retired Chief William Abbott, "Stoneham Independent": Patrick Blaise, Reporter.

The meeting began at 7:35 PM with the minutes from the November 3, 2003 meeting accepted as written. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$209.45, was accepted. A November 10, 2003 letter from Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, to Frederick Lyman requesting additional information for the nomination of the Warren Sweetser House was distributed. The Heritage Award plaque, with its additional nameplates, was returned to the Library. The following business was transacted:

1. Chief Abbott and Captain Rolli reviewed a history of the Stoneham Fire Station beginning with the 1903 fire on Central Street, the construction of the 1916 building and the 1991 renovations to the building that cost \$800,000 and included floor strengthening, new heating and electrical work.
2. They noted that the drawing the October 29th "Stoneham Sun" represented a new building and the existing tower, much like the new Wakefield Public Safety building.
3. They presented a composite photo of a proposed 21,000 S.F. building that would include the existing 1916 building and tower, minus the ambulance bays and the section that once housed the Police Department. When the new section is complete, the firefighters and equipment could move in, thus allowing the 1916 section to be renovated. No parking spaces or private properties would be taken. No needs assessment or cost analyses have been done for this proposal.
4. They noted that the recommendation of the National Fire Protection Association is to locate a fire station just off the main street. Captain Rolli commented that when Rte. 93 has an accident, the vehicles spill on to Rte 28 creating a traffic nightmare. The fire department was called to Rte. 93 a total of

- 59 times this past year. Also, 60% of the calls are north of Montvale Ave/Spring Street (53% of the Town's population) making the current location desirable. The longest run is 6 minutes to Stonehill Towers or the BRMC site.
5. Adding to the existing station is not precedent setting, as the Town created an addition to the 1903 Public Library rather than relocating or demolishing it.
 6. Former Chief Abbott commented that the 27,000 S.F. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) would not fit on the current site, unless the houses on Emerson Street and McDonough's parking lot were taken.
 7. Neither Captain Rolli nor former Chief Abbott sees a need for a 27,000 S.F. EOC. They note that the trend is toward mobile command centers, that Stoneham does not have a HazMat truck, that the Department never runs more than 3 fire trucks and that the staffing has dropped from 50 to 40 firefighters. Ten training sessions have been held in the in the Police Station conference room and this practice can continue. They expect the Town's population to remain at 23,000, although they recognize that zoning law changes could create greater building density. The proximity to the tot lot and the Common allows the firefighters to provide minor medical assistance and tours of the station.
 8. Captain Rolli is preparing a position paper as part of a research project at the National Fire Academy where he is a student. The paper will be available in mid-January.
 9. Former Chief Abbott, who is a member of the Review Committee, is waiting for the results of the environmental testing before asking that group to consider the 21,000 S.F. proposal. He noted that the current site passed its environmental testing during the 1991 renovation.
 10. Steve Rotondi reiterated the Commission's position of supporting the preservation of the 1916 building but not taking a stand on the location of the Emergency Operations Center.
 11. The "Old Business" agenda items were not discussed due to time constraints. The meeting ended at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 5, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard.
Excused: Peter Bracciotti, Betty Whelan

The meeting began at 7:31 PM with the minutes from the December 1, 2003 meeting accepted as written. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$209.45, was accepted. Handouts for the meeting: Agenda, Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) Dec 8, 2003 letter to Environmental Secretary Herzfelder regarding the Stoneham Executive Center, Selectmen's Dec 31, 2003 letter noting that our Annual Reports is due Jan 12, 2004, "A Civic Gift" published by the Michigan Land Use Institute. The following business was transacted:

1. Steve Rotondi reported that Dr. Pacos plans to move forward with the Middlesex Fells project, probably in April. Chris Willard reported that the Massachusetts GIS department has an older model Global Positioning System (GPS) unit that we can borrow to locate sites within the Fells. GIS is also willing to extract the data for us. Chris noted that the prices of GPS units have come down and that one costing as little as \$300 is accurate within 300 feet.
2. Steve reported that the Stoneham Cultural Council granted the Historical Commission \$200 for a Preservation Week speaker. Marcia Wengen reported that Mike Ryan's Middlesex Fells presentation on Dec 16th at the Medford Public Library had a number of drawbacks and would not be the best choice. Other suggestions for possible speakers included Dee Morris, David Kruh (The Big Dig) or John Indelicato.
3. Steve asked for comments from the members regarding accomplishments to be included in the Annual Report due on Monday January 12th. Marcia will confirm that 2003 was our 26th year.
4. The members agreed on the wording for a motion as follows: "The Stoneham Historical Commission supports the preservation of the 1916 Central Fire Station existing building's façade and outer appearance." No vote was taken as two

- members were absent. No agreement was reached about presenting the motion to the Selectmen.
5. Steve Rotondi reviewed the MHC letter and expressed his concern that no one from MHC contacted us for our opinion. He questioned how they arrived at their conclusions of the Stoneham Executive Center project, given that the long awaited guidelines have not been published. He was surprised at how quickly the National Register nomination for the Parkways was completed.
 6. The meeting ended at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 2, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Betty Whelan, Christopher Willard.

The meeting began at 7:31 PM with the minutes from the January 5, 2004 accepted as written. The Budget for FY 2005 for \$385.00 was submitted to Mr. Berry on January 15, 2004. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$209.45, was accepted.

Handouts for the meeting: the Agenda, a letter from the Architectural Resource Conservation introducing their services, a letter from the Board of Selectmen regarding deadline for Warrant articles, a letter from Dr. Connelly regarding public hearing on the rental of the Central School, an article regarding Mass State Historic Tax Credit.

The following business was transacted:

1. The members unanimously approved the following motion:
"While recognizing the need for a modernized Fire Station, the Stoneham Historical Commission supports any solution that would include the preservation of the existing 1916 Central Fire Station's façade and outer appearance." No agreement was reached about presenting the motion to the Selectmen.
2. The members reviewed the draft of a letter to Cara Metz, Director of the Mass Historical Commission, regarding MHC's position on the proposed Stoneham Executive Center. They also reviewed the Dec 2002 National Register nomination forms for the Metropolitan Park System and the Middlesex Fells Parkways as submitted by Betsy Friedberg, MHC. Marcia will confirm when the Parkways were placed on the National Register. Steve will modify the letter and bring it to the March meeting for review.
3. The members reviewed a packet of information from EBI Consulting regarding a proposed telecommunications installation on the roof of the Dow Block. Peter noted a discrepancy in the height of the stealth chimney (is it 10 ft. or 30 ft. high?). Steve, Peter, Chris and Marcia volunteered as a sub-

- committee to meet with Town Counsel William Solomon to discuss the proposal.
4. The members voted unanimously to ask David Kruh to speak about Boston's West End at the May 13th (Preservation Month) joint meeting with the Historical Society.
 5. The meeting ended at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 1, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Peter Bracciotti, Steve Rotondi, Marcia Wengen,
Christopher Willard.

Excused: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe, Betty Whelan

The meeting began at 7:34 PM with the minutes from the February 2, 2004 accepted as written. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$209.45, was accepted.

Handouts for the meeting: the Agenda, a copy of the Feb 27 letter to EDI Consulting regarding the proposed telecommunications tower on the Dow Building, and a request for filing supplies

The following business was transacted:

1. Fire Station: Peter updated the members on the recent activities of the site committee including a review of the real estate appraisals, which seemed low. Cambridge Tire will not allow environmental test borings to be done on their property. Alternatively, they can be done on the perimeter and should be ready for their next meeting. Peter will review the HC motion regarding the preservation of the 1916 building with the site committee.
2. Stoneham Executive Center: Steve withdrew his letter to the Mass Historical Commission, noting that the "shipped had sailed".
3. EBI Consulting: A letter, written by the sub-committee and approved by Attorney Bill Solomon, was distributed to the members. It outlines the outstanding aesthetic and town code issues regarding AT&T's placement of a cell antenna on the Dow Building. It is unclear what will happen with the Cingular Wireless buyout of AT&T Wireless.
4. Dr. Paicos: Steve reported that with Spring upon us, Dr. Paicos is ready to begin his Middlesex Fells project. Chris Willard will call him about an available GPS unit.

5. New business: A motion was made and voted to spend up to \$30 on filing cabinet supplies to organize all the HC material turned over to the Secretary.
6. Open Forum: The members discussed the closing of Love's Furniture and the need for a historical marker recognizing the importance John Hill's Shoe Factory to Stoneham's history. Steve remembered a significant fact about his enterprise being the first or one of the first in which the entire shoe production process was completed under one roof.
7. In the interest of preserving the history of all Stoneham's houses, not just those on the National Register, Steve outlined a project to create an inventory of every house, including a brief history from the owners. The members talked about the mechanics including exporting the assessor's tax records to a web page and using the real estate tax bills as a vehicle for notification. Help for this project might come from the Scouts and we would probably need to apply for grant money.
8. The meeting ended at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 5, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Peggy O'Keefe Steve Rotondi,
Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard, Betty Whelan

Excused: Peter Bracciotti,

Guest: Mr. Joseph Giammarco, Consultant, Omnipoint Holdings, Inc.

The meeting began at 7:33 PM with the minutes from the March 1, 2004 accepted as written. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$209.45, was accepted. The Treasurer will process the \$15.56 invoice for hanging file folders.

Handouts for the meeting: the agenda; March 30th letter from Mass Historical Commission determining that the Dow Block installation will have no adverse effect provided our conditions are met; notice concerning the Mass Historical Commission's Email List and a copy of the March 23 letter from Omnipoint Holdings, Inc. regarding the placement of antennas in the steeple of the First Baptist Church.

The following business was transacted:

1. Proposed Cell Antenna in First Baptist Church: Mr. Giammarco, consultant from Omnipoint Holdings, discussed the proposal to place a T-Mobile telecommunications antenna in the spire of the First Baptist Church. The Church is within Stoneham's Wireless Overlay District and on the National Register of Historical Places. Mr. Giammarco pointed out the discrepancy between the letter of March 23 and the drawing labeled Z-2. Only 7 +/- feet of the north, west, south facades of the steeple will be replaced, not 20 +/- feet as described in the letter. Fiberglass slate will be the replacement product and he will e-mail pictures for our review. He is unaware of other T-Mobile locations in town. After he left the meeting, the Board agreed to support his revised proposal and asked Marcia to prepare a letter for review by Attorney Solomon.
2. Dow Building Cell Antenna: There has been no additional communication from EBI Consulting regarding the cell antenna on the Dow Building. The Mass Historical Commission sent a

- letter on March 30, 2004 supporting our position on the Dow Building telecommunications antenna project.
3. Dr. Paicos Fells Project: Chris Willard reported that Dr. Paicos may be able to begin the Fells identification project in 3-4 weeks. Chris has a GIS unit that works for 45 minutes on one charge. Mass GIS will loan us a unit along with 2-3 hours of training time. Chris will check with the Boy Scouts to determine if they have a GIS unit.
 4. Fire Station: Steve reported that hazardous material has been identified on one of the properties located at the proposed site of Hancock St. and Main St. The owner has five years to decontaminate the property.
 5. File Cabinet: Marcia Wengen reported that the Town Clerk will be able to coordinate space in a locked room for our filing cabinet, but not until after the April Town elections.
 6. Heritage Award: Marcia Wengen will draft an article asking for nominations and request that it run in the two local papers. The members discussed two possible dates for the presentation (May 25 or June 1).
 7. Preservation Month: Marcia Wengen will draft a newspaper article for the joint Historical Society/Commission meeting on May 13, 2004. She will also create a poster advertising David Kruh's slide presentation and post it appropriately.
 8. Term Expirations: The terms will expire for three members: Peter Bracciotti, Steve Rotondi and Betty Whelan. Applications are due no later than April 21 at 4 PM.
 9. Open Forum: Chris Willard reported that it costs \$10/ year to register a domain name and between \$50-\$100 to host a site.

The meeting ended at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 11, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard, Matthew Whooley

Excused: Margaret O'Keefe, David Armato

The meeting began at 7:03 PM with the minutes from the April 5, 2004 accepted as written with a comment from Steve that the contamination at Main and Hancock Streets is minor and would likely be resolved with excavation of the building's foundation. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$193.89 was accepted. Expected expenses include an estimated \$35 for the Heritage Award. The \$150.00 payment for the May 13th speaker will come from the Cultural Council grant, therefore, there will be money available for refreshments if necessary. Steve will ask Peggy to check on our FY '05 budget with the Town Administrator.

Handouts for the meeting: the agenda; two documents from Omnipoint Holdings (April 8 letter with April 6 e-mail attached and April 28 letter) the April 27th SHC letter to Omnipoint Holdings.

The following business was transacted:

1. Re-organization: The Commission members voted unanimously for the following: Steve Rotondi, Chair, Chris Willard, Vice Chair, Peggy O'Keefe, Treasurer, Marcia Wengen, Secretary
2. Proposed Cell Antenna on Dow Building: Steve reviewed the project and noted that there has been no additional communication beyond the March 30th letter from Mass Historical Commission indicating that there would be "no adverse effect" provided our three requirements are met.
3. Dr. Paicos Fells Project: Steve noted that Dr. Paicos was an early Historical Commission member and a life long resident of Stoneham and is interested in identifying historic areas located in the Fells, such as Cheese Rock. Chris Willard reported that no progress was made in April due to the inclement weather. Also, the Boy Scouts have not called him back. There is an opportunity to borrow a GPS unit from the Mass GIS

- department. Chris will call Dr. Paicos. Marcia will e-mail Bill Stokinger to find out his availability.
4. Heritage Award: No replies were received from the newspaper articles asking for nominations. Steve suggested we honor The Copley Group for their sensitive renovation of the Dow Block. The vote was unanimous. Steve will contact them about the presentation on May 18th at the next Selectmen's meeting.
 5. May Preservation Month. David Kruh will be speaking on Boston's West End at the May 13th joint meeting. Other local events include a presentation by the Friends of the Fells and the Winchester Historical Society about Frederick Law Olmstead. A possibility for next year's speaker is Susan Lamm, a special Ed teacher at South School who found a ladies hat box in the trash that led her to write a book about a Mrs. Tripp, who was one the first woman to sail around the world in the 1800's
 6. Term Expirations: The Selectmen reappointed Steve Rotondi and appointed David Armato and Matthew Whooley to the Commission until April 30, 2007.
 7. Open Forum: Chris Willard presented his research regarding a Historical Commission website. He provided pricing, available domain names, hosting options, site content and suggested links. He will contact Brian Clapp about a template so that our site has a look consistent with the town's web site. Financial support might include a local sponsor (one of the Stoneham Banks for example) and/or affiliate programs (a link to Amazon.com for example). Rosemarie and Chris discussed the merit of "Dreamweaver" vs. "Front Page" software as the vehicle to develop our website. Marcia will discuss two issues with Attorney Solomon: do we need permission from the Selectmen to move forward with this project and can we approach specific sponsors or should we use an open bid process?
 8. Time Change: The members agreed to change the start time of the monthly meetings to 7:00 PM.

The meeting ended at 8:48 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 7, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Rosemarie McDonald, Margaret O'Keefe,
Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Excused: Stephen Rotondi

Absent: Matthew Whooley

The meeting began at 7:09 PM with the minutes from the May 11, 2004 accepted as written. The Treasurer's Report, with a balance of \$163.89 was accepted. Outstanding expenses include \$3.00 for the Heritage Award Plaque engraving. Peggy reported that the Town Administrator has \$385 in his FY '05 budget for the Historical Commission and that amount will not change even if the override fails.

Handouts for the meeting: the agenda; a tentative meeting schedule for next year, a Fiscal Year End procedure memo from the Town Accountant, a May 25, 2004 letter from the Mass Historical Commission regarding the First Baptist Church proposed telecommunications project; two flyers advertising the Family Fun Day and Trolley Tales fundraiser for the Senior Center.

The following business was transacted:

1. Heritage Award Plaque: The engraving is done for 2004.
2. Trolley Tours: The narrated trolley tours of early Stoneham are scheduled for Sunday June 13th at 10am, 11am, 12 noon and 1 pm. With the financial help of the Stoneham Cultural Council and some generous donors, the Trolley is paid for, so that profits from ticket sales can go to the Senior Center maintenance fund.
3. Dr. Paicos project: Chris reported that he owns a new GPS unit that will produce very accurate readings and has a battery life of 14 hours. Dr. Paicos is identifying the locations of buildings in Haywardville. Chris will follow up with him in a few weeks to determine if he is ready to identify other locations in the Fells. Rosemarie suggested using the GPS in conjunction with oral history projects, especially to identify landmarks or buildings

- that have been razed. Marcia and Chris may attempt a pilot project over the summer to identify the coordinates of National Register listings in Stoneham.
4. Web Site: Chris reported that Brian Clapp, the Town's MIS Manager, is willing to host a web-site for the Historical Commission. If the web-site had its own domain name, Chris would be able to transfer it to another host if Brian experiences time constraints or budget cuts. The committee voted unanimously to pay \$49.95 to have www.stonehamhistoricalcommission.us as our domain name for ten years. Two other options were voted on, if this name is taken before Chris registers it. Chris has the template to follow and will use Microsoft's Front Page to create the site. Ideas for content should be e-mailed to Chris.
 5. Meeting schedule for 2004-5 term: The members agreed that the next meeting would be Thursday September 9, 2004 at the Senior Center. Two other meetings were tentatively changed and will be confirmed at the September meeting. They are Tuesday January 4, 2005 and Tuesday May 3, 2005. By September, Mary Todd should know what the Library's hours of operation will be and if our meeting schedule can be accommodated.
 6. New Ideas: postponed until all members are present.
 7. Open Forum: The members voted to offer the acid free boxes that were intended for the inventory of the Old Burying Ground to the Historical Society with the stipulation that they would be used for that project. The members voted to offer Mary Todd a magazine subscription or book related to history for the Junior Room. We will need an invoice quickly in order to get it paid before fiscal year end. The members voted to spend money on two boxes of envelopes for the Secretary.
 8. The members discussed buying a copy of Images of Stoneham for each the six school libraries, as there is money to do so. Next year we may want to visit the libraries to determine how extensive their collections of historical materials are.

The meeting ended at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

August 11, 2004 -- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Rosemarie McDonald, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Absent: David Armato, Margaret O'Keefe, Matthew Whooley

Town of Stoneham: Attorney William Solomon

Guests: George Galliani of 351 William Street, Helen and Norma Lister of 342 William Street, Marie Marcucci of 4 Rodgers Road, Bee Russo of 181 North Street, Cecilia Testa of 6 Rodgers Road

Mr. Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. It was moved, seconded and voted to table the following items until the September meeting: minutes of June 7th meeting, Treasurer's Report and old business items.

Mr. Rotondi then announced that Attorney Solomon, who requested the meeting, would be approximately 20 minutes late. Mr. Rotondi explained that the Richardson house at 357 William Street is listed on the National Register of Historical Places and that the previous owners, Gerald and Ann Crosby, applied for and were granted permission to subdivide the property into three lots approximately fifteen years ago. Apparently there was much opposition from the neighbors at the time and no houses were built on the two empty lots.

The property was recently sold for \$775,000 and the abutters expressed the following concerns:

- no permits have been issued by the Building Inspector
- drainage issues, now that the land has been cleared of trees
- the early arrival of noisy work trucks to the property each morning
- the filling in of the swimming pool with rock and gravel
- the removal last week of four gravestones in a covered Penske truck (license plate not readable). Two of the gravestones had been leaning against the right side house for many years. It is alleged that the other two gravestones were in the back of the house near the pool and probably uncovered when the trees and shrubs were removed.

Mr. Galliani produced a letter dated August 9, 2004 from Mr. Blake Allison, Chairman of the Conservation Commission asking Mr. Anthony Santullo of 81 Bedford Street, Woburn, MA 01801 to stop all activity on the property until “a Request for Determination of Applicability has been filed, a public hearing has been held and a determination has been made.” Apparently the tree removal and earth moving/grading has stopped.

Mr. Rotondi reported a conversation with Mary Marchant, Curator at the Historical Society, regarding her knowledge of the two gravestones of Elijah Richardson and his wife. She is aware that they have been leaning against the house for many years and believes them to be “abandoned” from the William Street Cemetery. The Town voted to prohibit any additional burials on that site in 1899 so that the land could be taken for the purpose of building a high school. Mrs. Marchant believes that the Richardson’s remains were removed from the William Street Cemetery to the Lindenwood Cemetery, as there is a “new” marker on their lot. It was common in those days to reuse abandoned gravestones in foundations, as well covers, etc. Bee Russo called Mary Marchant to ask about the two gravestones allegedly seen by Mr. Galliani at the back of the house. Mrs. Marchant is unaware of their existence. Mrs. Russo thinks it is possible that Sue Doscher may have additional knowledge.

Attorney Solomon provided a 1989 letter from the Mass Historical Commission to Mr. and Mrs. Crosby regarding the possible destruction of a portion of the historic house and the concern about human burials being located on the property. Attorney Solomon addressed the group and outlined various options for the Stoneham Historical Commission:

- if our factual understanding is that there are no burials on the property at 357 William Street, then there would be no need to involve the Mass Historical Commission (MHC)
- if we are unsure about burials on the property, then it may be prudent to ask the MHC to investigate
- if the SHC is interested in having the Richardson House maintained and perhaps helping the new owner realize some tax breaks, it may be prudent to meet with him and this Attorney
- the SHC may want to investigate the feasibility of proposing a demolition delay by-law at Town Meeting.

A letter will be drafted, reviewed and sent to Mr. Santullo regarding the removal of the four gravestones and asking him to meet with a subcommittee (Mr. Rotondi, Ms. Wengen, Mr. Willard) to explore mutually beneficial options regarding the Richardson house.

Attorney Solomon commented that unless it could be proven that a portion of the property is a burial site/cemetery, then prosecution under the laws and regulations protecting burial grounds would be unlikely.

Attorney Solomon noted that Mr. Santullo must comply with current zoning laws. He will need a building permit and the DPW must sign off on the new street. Attorney Solomon encouraged the abutters to contact the Town Administrator and request a meeting with the Town Engineer regarding their drainage concerns.

The abutters left the meeting at 8:40 PM. Attorney Solomon discussed his interest in developing video(s) for the public access channels extolling Stoneham's rich history, along the lines of his September 11th and Christmas videos. He was encouraged to contact the Historical Society as they have the most complete files. There may be funds available to convert the Nick Apalakis tapes to a more up-to-date format.

Attorney Solomon addressed the question of the Historical Commission seeking private financing to support its proposed web page. Any donation would need to be accepted by the Selectmen on behalf of the Town. This small amount, estimated to be \$48/month, would not be a problem. If the HC plans to engage in more aggressive fund raising, it would be best served by establishing a "Friends" group.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 8, 2004 - Meeting Minutes of
Sub-Committee investigating the Richardson - Williams House
At 357 William Street

Present: Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard
Excused: David Armato, Rosemarie McDonald, Margaret O'Keefe,
Matthew Whooley

Town of Stoneham: Attorney William Solomon

Others: Elaine McKenzie, Atty. Solomon's Office, Bee Russo,
Stoneham Historical Society, Atty. Charles Rodman, and his
client/property owner Mr. Anthony Santullo, and his son Mr. Michael
Santullo.

All parties assembled by 11:15 am. Atty. Rodman, on behalf of his
clients Mr. Santullo and his son, offered those present an opportunity
to tour the interior of the 1712 Richardson House.

At the conclusion of the tour, Atty. Rodman asked the Historical
Commission to discuss their interest in saving the house. Members
talked about the history of the house and the neighborhood, its
National Register status, the opportunities for Mr. Santullo to receive
tax credits, the possibility of relocating the house elsewhere on the
property or offsite, the option of salvaging some of the architectural
details.

Mr. Santullo's concerns included the structure of the building (he
believes the foundation and the first floor are not safe), the garage
and the front porch that are too close to the lot lines and the
reconfiguration of the driveway to access to Sam Miles Circle that is
impractical. There is also an issue of the grading of the land for the
other two houses. Based on his experience with a historical home in
Burlington, Mr. Santullo believes that this interior would need to be
taken back to the studs. Mr. Santullo graciously said that he would
allow pictures of the interior to be taken as a permanent record of the
property.

Mr. Solomon asked for a 30-day time frame, with weekly updates, for
the Historical Commission to accomplish the following tasks:

- a) ask a qualified person(s) to inspect the house and determine if it is worth saving and the cost involved. Bee Russo suggested Mr. Rick Johnson and Mr. Fred Lyman, who were both involved in the Sweetser House project. Mr. Santullo said that he would be interested in meeting Mr. Johnson.
- b) ask a knowledgeable person to explain the tax credits that would be available to the owner
- c) determine if there is state or federal money to have a preservationist comment on the condition of the house.
- d) determine the feasibility of moving the house.
- e) ask a knowledgeable real estate person to comment on the keeping the house and building two new vs. demolishing the house and building three new houses

Atty. Rodman stressed that time is of the essence and he will contact Atty. Solomon regarding the request for 30 days after he speaks with his clients.

Mr. Santullo is interested in securing a building permit for the house on the lot closest to William Street. Atty. Solomon will investigate.

Mr. Santullo states he is unaware of any gravestones ever being on the property. Atty. Rodman was given a copy of the fax from the Massachusetts Historical Commission regarding the laws related to unmarked burial sites. Atty. Rodman assured those present that Mr. Santullo knows the procedure when/if bones are accidentally discovered on the property.

The meeting ended at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 3, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: Margaret O'Keefe, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Excused: David Armato

Absent: Rosemarie McDonald, Matthew Whooley

Mr. Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports: It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the minutes of December 6, 2004. Mrs. O'Keefe presented the Treasurer's report showing a balance \$361.52. She will update our 2004 budget and submit it to the Town Administrator next week.
2. Old Business – Dr. Paicos' Project. Neither Chris nor Steve has any new information on Dr. Paicos' project. He seems to be concentrating on Haywardville rather than on the entire Fells as we originally understood.
3. Web Site – Chris will contact Mr. Cicatelli this month regarding the standard template and the Town's interest/ability to host our web site. Chris did register our domain name.
4. Love's Furniture Building - Letter to Joe Cunningham was read and the section will be reworded regarding a historical plaque for the building so that it is clear the Commission is not offering to pay for it.
5. Fosdick House – Dan Shields, owner of 18th and 19th Recycling, has removed the aluminum siding and stripped the inside of the house back to the frame. There is no demolition permit yet from the Building Inspector. Dan is expecting to show the gutted house to a potential buyer who may be interested in the 1776 frame with its gunstock posts and purlin roof.
6. Donation Account – Steve requested that Peg retain the paperwork from the Town regarding the Donation Account. No decision was made regarding projects that the money might be used for. Peg recommended that we wait to see if our annual operating budget is approved.
7. Newspaper Article on 357 William Street teardown: Joe Haggerty has agreed to run the article in serial installments. The members were given a new draft edited by Danielle Masterson and asked to review it by Wednesday evening and notify Marcia of any changes. If Joe Haggerty has no objection, Marcia will approach the Stoneham Sun about running the article also. Since this article is being contributed by the Commission rather than an author who

expects to be paid for the submission, it can run in more than one paper (similar to articles by Casey, Tisei and the Senior Center).

8. Article on Preservation Tools: Danielle, who is now working as a freelance writer, is willing to contact the editor of the Globe's Northwest section to "pitch" a story about the Commission's investigation of various preservation tools, including a proposed demolition delay by-law. Both Steve and Chris are willing to be interviewed by Danielle should the Globe express interest in printing the story. Marcia will contact her.
9. Sam Miles Circle – Steve will contact Bee Russo of the Historical Society to determine the level of interest in having the elementary school classes vote on an appropriate name. Chris will contact representatives at the elementary schools to discuss the feasibility. A tentative date might be the Friday before February vacation. Marcia will draft a letter to the Fire, Police, Public Works and Mr. Santullo explaining our interest in renaming the Circle and asking for their cooperation before we approach the Selectmen, tentatively on January 25th.
10. National Register Listings – Based on research to date, Marcia noted that the MACRIS database does not match the paper copy of Stoneham's 1979 inventory of houses. Chris suggested that updating the lists by accessing public records and taking photographs of current buildings might be a good project for Scouts working on Eagle Scout Merit Badges or Gold Awards. Marcia noted that there are no properties listed beyond 1950 or 55 and that Betsy Friedberg of the Mass Historic Commission has encouraged local commissions to begin documenting post WWII construction.
11. Reference Library – Our library now consists of 6 books/reports. Peg recommended that we wait until the members pick additional texts from the MHC and National Park Service lists before approaching Mary Todd about storing them. We will need to decide if they are to be catalogued or just listed with the Reference Librarian, if they will circulate, where they will be stored, if they should have an electronic tag, if we include an information label about how to order the book/report, etc.
12. New business – Letter to MHC: The draft of a letter regarding the demolition of 357 William Street was reviewed and Marcia will add a statement about the \$1000 donation before Steve signs it.
13. New Business – Annual Report: Steve will prepare a statement for the 2004 Town Report describing our activities and accomplishments during the year.
14. Open Forum – Chris presented a draft of a demolition delay by-law, largely based on Wakefield's law. Chris added a section in which the requestor can expedite the process by seeking a buyer for the property or giving salvage

rights so that all or some of the property can be recycled. Comments should be e-mailed to Chris. A revised copy will be sent to Town Counsel and Steve will invite him to our Feb 7th meeting. Our choice would be that the Selectmen sponsor the item on the May warrant. The alternative is for us to secure 10 signatures on a petition. As part of educating the citizens we need to meet with the Finance and Advisory Board and the Selectmen.

The meeting ended at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 7, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: David Armato, Rosemarie McDonald, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Excused: Margaret O'Keefe, Stephen Rotondi

Absent: Matthew Whooley

Mr. Willard called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports: It was moved, seconded and voted to approve the minutes of January 3, 2005. Mrs. O'Keefe's e-mail was read into the minutes as follows: "There were no monies spent this month so the balance of the Treasurer's report remains the same as last month - \$361.52. I also gave our budget for FY-06 to Ron Florino on January 6th and I will have copies of it for the March meeting." Mr. Willard asked that Mrs. O'Keefe get an update from Ron Florino regarding our request.
2. Old Business – Dr. Paicos' Project. Chris has no new information on Dr. Paicos' project. Perhaps it is time to take this item off the agenda until Dr. Paicos has an update.
3. Web Site – Chris is still attempting to contact Mr. Cicatelli regarding the standard template and the Town's interest/ability to host our web site.
4. Love's Furniture Building - Letter to Joe Cunningham was signed and mail on January 13th. Mr. Cunningham has not responded to telephone messages regarding our taking interior pictures of the building before it is renovated. Chris asked if it might be possible for the Commission to "tag along" with department that might be doing an inspection.
5. Fosdick House – Dan Shields, owner of 18th and 19th Recycling in Spencer, MA, has "deconstructed" 39 Elm Street back to its oak and pine frame. On Feb 2nd, the numbered joists, rafters, posts, etc. were taken down and on Feb 5th they were loaded on a flatbed and taken away. Dan will store the field drawings and the frame until a preservationist can be found to purchase and reassemble the 229-year-old house. Given that Dan will not receive any money for his efforts until he sells the frame, Marcia thinks it unlikely that the Commission will receive a donation from him. In the future, we should try to negotiate a percentage when a building is taken on speculation.
6. Donation Account – This item needs to stay on the agenda until we discuss the preservation project(s) that the money should be used for. Chris recommended that we also discuss how to promote the existence of the

account for future donations. Ron Florino told Marcia previously that the value of the \$1000 donation was too small to notify the Selectmen.

7. Newspaper Articles – the second of seven articles on the Williams-Linscott house was printed in the Independent last week. Marcia gave both the Independent and the Sun, pictures/captions for the 39 Elm Street project on Jan 21st, but neither paper has printed them. Marcia reported that Danielle, who had offered to write a story for the Globe about the proposed demo delay by-law, is unable to do so because of her contract to write for another newspaper owned by the Herald.
8. Sam Miles Circle – Chris reported that Joe Casey, Assistant Superintendent would be interested in receiving a letter from the Commission regarding the involvement of the elementary schools in the renaming of Sam Miles Circle. Is the PTO a possible source of help for this project? During a “corridor conservation” with Marcia, Chairman Ciccarello suggested the Commission come up with a new name and present it to the Board of Selectmen. Marcia reported that Mary Marchant had expressed concern that Sam Miles Circle may be registered in Land Court. The quitclaim deed dated June 8, 2004 makes no mention of Sam Miles Circle. Letters were sent to the Public Works Director, the Fire and Police Chiefs asking for comments. The only concern is that the new street name not sound like or be similar to an existing street. Marcia will check with Mr. Grover about changing “circle” to “way” or “drive”.
9. Reference Library – Our library still consists of 6 books/reports. The members should come to next month’s meeting prepared to recommend additional books. They range in price from free to \$25 and we need to make the best use of available funds.
10. Annual Town Report – The members read Steve’s concise Annual Report and made two suggestions to clarify the content. In particular, the 39 Elm Street “deconstruction” and subsequent rebuilding of the frame was emphasized.
11. Proposed Demolition Delay By-Law – Marcia will make the additions and changes to Chris’ proposed By-Law and send copies to the members. Attorney Solomon will need a copy before the March 7th meeting. Chris noted that the By-Law change can go on the May warrant with 10 signatures, but would need 100 signatures for the October meeting. Rosemarie noted that previously when the Commission presented such a by-law it failed to pass and that not enough work had been done to educate the public about its benefits.
12. Letter to MHC – Members received the signed copy of the Commission’s letter to Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director at the Mass Historical Commission regarding the demolition of 357 William Street.

13. Tudor Barn – The \$186,000 budget is funded, although it remains to be seen if the new DCR Commissioner will move the project forward. No viable contractor was identified to do the stabilization work in December. The barn continues to deteriorate. The specs are being re-written for all the work to be done in one phase this Spring. Wendy Pearl from DCR will appear before the Conservation Commission again in March.

14. New Business – resignation of Mat Whooley: The Commission has verbal notice that Mat has resigned due to his involvement with the Finance Board and his candidacy for the School Committee. Two Stoneham residents expressed interest in “things historical” during Town Day last September. The members think it unlikely that an appointment will be made before the advertisements for volunteers are run in April. Marcia will inquire about a resignation letter.

15. New Business – Sweetser House Public Hearing: Marcia will try to attend the National Register Nomination hearing on March 9th. The members asked her to convey their enthusiasm for the project.

16. New Business – July 26, 2004 letter from Chairman Ciccarello: Marcia pointed out that the William Street letter was never sent to the Historical Commission. David questioned the comment in the letter about burials. Marcia noted that in spite of Mr. Santullo’s denial regarding headstones on the property, there are photographs in the Planning Office files showing them leaning against the side of the house. An interment card at the Cemetery Office reveals burials in Richardson/Williams lot of Lindenwood Cemetery that had to have been exhumed from another location(s). Since the lot has a very large granite marker, it is not surprising that the original markers were left behind. There is one other known instance of two abandoned marble markers found in town (the bodies were probably in the William Street Cemetery, which was closed in 1899, and moved to Lindenwood).

17. Open Forum – no business

The meeting ended at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 7, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: David Armato, Rosemarie McDonald, Margaret O'Keefe, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – Peg O'Keefe presented the FY 2006 budget given to Ron Florino, Town Administrator. He will notify us if our request for \$385 is cut from the budget. There is no Treasurer's report, as the balance of \$361.52 has not changed. Chris suggested that we consider creating a long-range plan for items that will require additional funding when the Town's financial position improves. The minutes for the February 7th meeting were accepted as amended by deleting the last sentence in item 5.
2. Old Business-Dr. Paicos' project – Dr. Paicos has been photographing sites with an MDC representative and plans to continue in the spring before the trees leaf out. He showed Steve pictures of Cheese Rock, covered by a dead tree, and Shute's marker.
3. Web site – Chris has done some work on our site at www.stonehamhistoricalcommission.us and is looking for more content to add including meeting schedules, minutes, heritage award recipients, etc. The site can accept e-mail and forward it to the secretary's home e-mail. The members felt that advertising historical real estate (the Padilla Beard House at 18 Maple Street is on the market and not selling) would be a conflict of interest and contrary to our mission. Posting a notice about houses scheduled for demolition would be appropriate. It was moved, seconded and approved to pay an annual web-hosting fee of \$48, rather than rely on the Town to host our site.
4. Rename Sam Miles Circle – The draft of the letter to Joe Casey, Assistant Superintendent of Schools was reviewed and several typos were identified and fixed. Chris noted that Mr. Leonardos, Principal of the South School, is supportive of the project. Steve will ask for the project to be put on the Selectmen's agenda. Assuming they approve the project, we need to plan the publicity.
5. Board vacancy – Steve was given a copy of Mat Whooley's resignation and he will confirm that the Board of Selectmen is aware of it. Peg O'Keefe has decided not to reapply for the Commission. Rosemarie is still considering her options. Marcia has not heard from the archivist at Suffolk University who lives in Stoneham and expressed interest in the Commission last September.

6. Tudor Barn – David presented a copy of the Friends of the Fells newsletter regarding the Barn. Marcia noted that Wendy Pearl would make a presentation before the Conservation Committee on March 15th.
7. Reference Library – the members agreed that Marcia could order any appropriate books that are free and voted to approve the expenditure of \$3.15 for Establishing Local Historic Districts and \$2.50 for Preservation Planning Manual: Local Historical Commissions – Their Role in Local Government.
8. Proposed Demolition Delay By-Law – Attorney Solomon was invited but did not arrive to discuss the by-law. Chris outlined the sequence of events leading up to the issuance of the demolition permit. Steve questioned if 6 months was too long.
9. New business – Demolition Permit – Stoneham's demolition permit now has space on it for the Commission to sign acknowledging that the building has no historical significance. Steve signed for the demolition of Pacey's burned out property at 166 William Street on or about Feb 15th. A letter will be drafted explaining the Building Inspector that until the delay by-law is passed, the Commission has no authority to sign the permit. We will ask for informal notification that a demo permit has been pulled so that we may assess the property for historical significance.
10. Preservation Month speaker - It was moved, seconded and approved to pay \$150 for Susan Lamm, reading specialist at the South School to present her one hour slide show about Mary Ann Hathaway Tripp (1810-1906). Mrs. Tripp was one of the first American women to travel around the world in a time when women rarely left their homes. Steve will confirm with Betty Whelan that the Historical Society will provide the location and supply the refreshments.
11. Heritage Award – the local papers will be notified that we are accepting nominations for our annual award. The due date will be March 30th, so that nominations can be discussed at the April meeting. Possible nominees include Dr. Paicos, Attorney Solomon and Maureen Welch/Nancy Smith.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 4, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: David Armato, Rosemarie McDonald, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard
Excused: Margaret O'Keefe

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – In the absence of Peg O'Keefe, Steve reported that the Treasurer's report has a balance of \$361.52. Chris presented an invoice for \$37.92 for 1 year of web hosting. This will reduce the balance to 323.60. The minutes for the March 7th meeting were accepted.
2. Old Business-Demolition Delay By-law – tabled until Attorney Solomon can join us.
3. Dr. Paicos' project – no additional news.
4. Web site – Chris has created a URL called www.townofstoneham.com and the Historical Commission page is part of the site. Long term he hopes that the Town will take over the new URL. He is considering replacing "Front Page", his web development tool with a content management system as it has more flexibility. Chris still needs pictures and content for the HC web page.
5. Rename Sam Miles Circle – At their March 29th meeting, the Selectmen gave permission to proceed with the street renaming project with the elementary schools (grades 3-5) and then come back to them with the winning choice.
6. Board Vacancy – Rosemarie has decided to step down from the Commission. This leaves three vacancies.
7. Building Permit Applications - Marcia will rewrite the letter to Cheryl Noble notifying her that the Commission has no authority to sign off on the demolition permit until such time as an appropriate by-law is passed at Town Meeting.
8. Annual Heritage Award – the Commission members reviewed the nomination letters from Bee Russo and Susan McCarthy. Nancy Smith (Colonial Park) and Maureen Welch (South School) will receive this year's Heritage Award for their work in developing the "Tools of History" project to integrate Stoneham's rich history into the third grade curriculum.

9. New Business - Preservation Month Susan Lamm, reading specialist at the South School, will present her one hour slide show about Mary Ann Hathaway Tripp (1810-1906) at the May 12th joint meeting of the Historical Society and the Historical Commission. Marcia noted that the 100th anniversary of the transcontinental road race occurs in June of 2009, if we want to think about activities surrounding the Shawmut car's win by default. Marcia will check the Imperial Palace and Larz Anderson web sites for information on Shawmut cars.

10. Open Forum – none

The meeting ended at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 3, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – Steve reviewed the Treasurer’s report that has a balance of \$361.52. Chris has not submitted his invoice for \$37.92 for 1 year of web hosting. Marcia submitted an invoice for the two Heritage Award certificates for \$50.00. The May 12th speaker will cost \$150 and further reduce the balance to \$123.60. The members requested that Marcia determine how many copies of Joanne Harriman’s “Images of Stoneham” we could donate to the school libraries. The minutes for the April 4th meeting were accepted.
2. Board Vacancies – Chris noted that at the last Selectmen’s meeting, no one applied to serve of the Historical Commission. They will advertise again. There was no response from Paula Sampson at the High School regarding the possibility of having a graduating student apply for a Commission vacancy. The new slate of officers is as follows: Stephen E. Rotondi, Chair, Christopher Willard, Vice Chair, David Armato, Treasurer, Marcia Wengen, Secretary.
3. Old Business-Demolition Delay By-law – tabled until we have all the seats filled on the Commission. Then Attorney Solomon will be asked to join us.
4. Dr. Paicos’ project – no additional news.
5. Web site – Chris will review his web site (www.townofstoneham.com) with Selectman Kennedy and Attorney Solomon. Attorney Solomon may have some funding from the cable TV budget that could be used to maintain the site. Selectman Kennedy is aware of an on-line payment service that is available to non-profits/municipalities at no cost.
6. Rename Sam Miles Circle – The elementary school voting is underway to rename Sam Miles Circle. With two schools reporting, Micah’s Pond is the favorite. If the other two schools vote similarly, the members will adopt “Micah’s Pond Way” and take it to the Selectmen, probably at their meeting on June 7th. Marcia will send a letter to Mr. Santullo, updating him on the process.
7. Building Permit Applications – Steve told the Commission that Cheryl Noble is in receipt of the letter notifying her that the Commission has no authority to

sign off on the demolition permit until such time as an appropriate by-law is passed at Town Meeting.

8. Preservation Month Activities - Susan Lamm, reading specialist at the South School, will present her one hour slide show about Mary Ann Hathaway Tripp (1810-1906) at the May 12th joint meeting of the Historical Society and the Historical Commission.
9. Annual Heritage Award – Nancy Smith (Colonial Park) and Maureen Welch (South School) will receive this year's Heritage Award for their work in developing the "Tools of History" project to integrate Stoneham's rich history into the third grade curriculum. The presentation will be Tuesday May 24th at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Hearing Room. The School Committee, Dr. Connelly and the principals of Colonial Park and South school will be unofficially told of the event.
10. Open Forum – projects for the coming year. David: more integration with the Friends of the Fells, Chris: web site up and running, Marcia: identify inconsistencies between MACRIS database and 1979 House Inventory listing; Steve: more work in the Old Burying Ground, including matching grave markers with existing houses.

The meeting ended at 8:41 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 6, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Senior Center

NO QUORUM

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 15, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the May 3rd meeting were accepted as presented. David reviewed the Treasurer’s report that has a balance of \$118.00.
2. Dr. Paicos’ project – no additional news.
3. Web site – Chris met with Tom Cicatelli, Tony Kennedy and Ron Florino to discuss the development of a plan to activate the town’s web site.
4. Board Vacancies – no response from the May 13th letter notifying the Selectmen of the new slate of officers and requesting that they re-advertise for the three open seats.
5. Rename Sam Miles Circle – At their June 14th meeting, the Selectmen accepted the renaming of Sam Miles Circle to Micah’s Pond Way, subject to Ron Florino confirming the change with the Fire, Police and DPW department heads.
6. Preservation Month Activities - Susan Lamm, reading specialist at the South School, presented her one hour slide show about Mary Ann Hathaway Tripp (1810-1906) at the May 12th joint meeting of the Historical Society and the Historical Commission. It was well received, though not well attended due to other activities in town on the same evening.
7. Book Donation - The members agreed to purchase six copies of “Images of Stoneham” at a cost of \$113.94. The Middle School, Robin Hood, Colonial Park, St. Pat’s and Edgewood have no copies of the book.
8. Annual Heritage Award – Steve read a thank you note from Nancy Smith (Colonial Park) and Maureen Welch (South School) for the Heritage Award.
9. Town Day – Marcia and David will staff the Historical Commission table on Saturday September 10th.
10. Open Forum – Marcia noted that the Charles Gill house on Pleasant Street is on the market. It is listed on the National Register. Steve mentioned that he added several of Stoneham’s founders to the “Find-A-Grave” web site

including Rev Osgood, the town's first minister. When we have a full board, Steve will invite Attorney Solomon to discuss the demolition delay by-law.

The next meeting will be September 12th . Since the Library is not available on that evening, Marcia will arrange for use of the Senior Center.

The meeting ended at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 12, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the June 15th meeting were accepted as presented. David reviewed the Treasurer's report for June 30th with a balance of \$41.98.
2. Web site – the HC web page associated with the town has static information on it, including but not limited to the annual report, the Heritage Award, our meeting schedule. Chris is considering the addition of content management software for the HC's own web page so that it can be more dynamic and current. The pages are linked. The development of a plan to activate the town's web site is still under consideration by Tom Cicatelli and Chris Willard.
3. Rename Sam Miles Circle – DPW states that the Micah's Pond Way sign has been erected. A black plastic bag has been covering the sign since July. Marcia will contact Mr. Santullo, the realtor and the Assessors Office to research the problem.
4. Book Donation - The members agreed to donate the five copies of "Images of Stoneham" to the Middle School, Robin Hood, Colonial Park, St. Pat's and Edgewood. A presentation will be arranged with the School Committee. The sixth copy may go to the Public Library.
5. Town Day Report – the HC table saw a modest number of people interested in the storyboard about the Fosdick House. Four citizens made inquiries that will be followed-up. We need to continue our presence at Town Day. An awning would be helpful, if we could afford to rent or purchase one.
6. Meeting Schedule for 2005-6 – the meeting schedule was approved and will be logged at Town Hall.
7. Membership – Marcia invited three townspeople to attend this meeting: Joan Quigley from Merrow Lane, Susan Beccia, a former member of the Finance Board and Rob Mirabile, a young man who approached the HC table at Town Day and seems enthusiastic about Stoneham's history. Marcia will ask Ron Florino about running an article in the Globe Northwest.
8. Ideas for the coming year – Steve said no activity on the demolition delay by-law until we have a full board. Steve is interested in adding Stoneham names

to the Find-a-Grave web site. Marcia will research an optional web site local to New England for next month's meeting.

9. Open Forum – a letter will be prepared in response to the July 12, 2005 request for comments on the proposed addition of telecommunications gear to the roof of One Montvale Ave. The property is not within the Central Historic District, although there is one National Register property at 2 Montvale Ave-the John Steele Double House and on Flint Ave. at the Cogan House.

The meeting ended at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 3, 2005 - Meeting Minutes
Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 6:58 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the September 12th meeting were accepted as presented. David reviewed the Treasurer's report. There is an \$1,070 balance in the donation account and that extra \$70 appears to belong to the Cultural Council. Marcia will contact the Town Administrator's office regarding the \$385 operating budget that we requested for FY 2006.
2. Web site – Chris has made no progress on the web page. He may have time in October to load the content management software.
3. Rename Sam Miles Circle – According to Jean in Mr. Santullo's office, he would like to leave the sign covered until the third house is sold. 355 William St. is sold. The second house is closing November 1st. She explained that the tax bills for Nov 1 came with addresses of "0 Sam Miles Circle" and the only way to tell them apart is by the lot size. Frank Golden, Town Assessor, stated that he has a letter from Bob Grover regarding the name change and that the Feb real estate tax bill will have the correct address.
4. One Montvale Ave - a letter to EBI Consulting regarding the project to place Nextel cell antennae atop the building at One Montvale Ave was sent Oct 1st with a copy to Massachusetts Historical Commission.
5. Membership – Rob Mirabile declined the opportunity to serve on the Historical Commission, as he will be teaching a class on Monday nights beginning in January. Neither Joan Quigley nor Susan Beccia appeared at tonight's meeting. A request for volunteers ran in the Globe NorthWest section, but the Historical Commission was not listed. Steve will speak with Amy Brough (channel 9) and John Hanright (channel 22) about posting an announcement.
6. New Business – none

7. Open Forum – internet sites for listing deceased persons includes Find-A-Grave and the Tombstone Transcription Project. Chris will look into the possibility of creating our own database to be part of our web page.

The meeting ended at 7:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 14, 2005 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the October 3rd meeting were accepted as presented. The Treasurer’s report: \$385 for operating expenses and the donation account has a balance of \$1,070, but the extra \$70 belongs to the Cultural Council. Marcia is working with Ron Castignetti to resolve the discrepancy.
2. Web site – Chris has made no progress on the web page, due to a crash of this own system. The Selectmen have made the Web site activation a goal for Ron Florino.
3. Rename Sam Miles Circle – The deed for 7 Sam Miles Circle was registered in Cambridge on Nov 3rd. The name Micah’s Pond Way is not referenced on the deed. Marcia will research how the water bill(s) were addressed and contact Chairman Sweeney about this ongoing problem.
4. Book Donations – Steve presented 3 copies of Joanne Harriman’s book at the October 19th School Committee meeting and a picture was in the Independent. The books for St Pat’s and Edgewood will be mailed with a cover letter. Marcia will research if the Senior Center has a copy of the book.
5. One Montvale Ave - there has been no response to our Oct 1st letter to EBI Consulting regarding the project to place Nextel cell antennae atop the building at One Montvale Ave.
6. Membership – Steve approached both John Hanright (channel 22) and Amy Brough Palmerino (channel 9) about posting a message for volunteers to the Historical Commission. Both agreed, but Steve has not seen an announcement yet.
7. Funding for Fire Station Restoration– State Representative Casey announced House approval of \$200,000 for a “historical building on Central St”. The bill is now with the Senate. Chris Willard will speak with Mike Lindstrom, Senator Tisei’s legislative aide, on Thursday. Marcia will research the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for historical building rehabilitation.

8. Central School Building – The North Reading lease on the Central School building expires when school is over in June 2006. The building could be returned to the Town as surplus property. The building is not listed on the State or National Register, nor is it inventoried in MHC's MACRIS database. Betsy Friedberg recommended that the SHC submit an inventory form with pictures and ask the Mass Historical Commission to rule on its eligibility for State and National Register listing. Eligibility for listing would be a prerequisite for a historic rehabilitation tax credit. MHC requires archival quality pictures and Chris has a connection at the High School to have the film processed appropriately at no cost.
9. Preservation Month Speaker – the members approved up to \$100 for Alan Seaburg to speak about Frederic Tudor, The Ice King at the May 11, 2006 joint meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 5, 2005 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the November 14th meeting were accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report: \$385 for operating expenses and the donation account has a balance of \$1,070, but the extra \$70 belongs to the Cultural Council. Marcia is working with Ron Castignetti to resolve the discrepancy.
2. Web site – Chris has transferred all his files to a new computer system. The Selectmen have made the Web site activation a goal for Ron Florino.
3. Rename Sam Miles Circle – DPW reports there were no water bills for Sam Miles Circle sent in November. Marcia met with Chairman Sweeney on Nov 30 regarding the on-going problems with the renaming of Sam Miles Circle. Marcia is to call him Tuesday Dec 6 or Wed December 7 for an update.
4. Book Donations – The books for St Pat's and Edgewood will be mailed with a cover letter. Marcia will research if the Senior Center has a copy of the book.
5. Membership – Steve will remind Amy Brough Palmerino (channel 9) about posting a message for volunteers to the Historical Commission.
6. Funding for Fire Station Restoration– Rep Casey's legislative aide, Brian Domoretsky, reports that the Senate has approved the supplemental budget and it now goes to a conference committee to reconcile the differences. He is hopeful that the \$200,000 will remain untouched as the language and dollar amount is the same in both versions.
7. Central School Building – The North Reading lease of the Central School building expires when school is over in June 2006. The School Department is considering a 5-10 year lease to the SEEM Collaborative. This is in addition to the SEEM leases at the North and East schools. Marcia recommended that the Commission continue to pursue adding the building to the state's MACRIS database. Chris can arrange for the film to be processed to provide archival quality photographs for the submission.

8. Preservation Month Speaker – Betty Whelan will request an invoice for \$100 from Alan Seaburg for his lecture about Frederic Tudor, The Ice King at the May 11, 2006 joint meeting.
9. Annual Report – Steve will work on the Annual Report (calendar year 2005) which is due in the Selectmen's Office in early January.
10. Deed Restriction – Marcia will re-write the letter notifying the Building Inspector of the 10-year deed restriction on the property at 342 William Street. Chris recommended that we ask the town to develop a policy of checking land records on-line as part of the preparation of permits from their office.
11. Press Release – Marcia spoke with Bee Russo and they volunteered to interview all or some of the parties involved in the sale and protection of 342 William Street (Helen and Norma Lister, Karen and Joe Cox, Attorney Cicutelli) with an eye toward publishing a human interest story in the local newspaper(s). Steve opined that the Listers would make a good Heritage Award nominee.
12. Demo Delay by-law – Chris asked about presenting the Demo Delay by-law at the May town meeting. Marcia will reprint the most recent draft for discussion at the January meeting.
13. Preservation Initiatives – The members discussed two preservation initiatives:
 - a.) Concord's plans for a bylaw to create neighborhood conservation districts to preserve the character of specific areas within the town and
 - b.) North Reading's existing zoning ordinance which allows lot size and frontage reductions in the interest of preservation. Marcia will research the zoning ordinance for the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 6, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard
Guests: Scout Leaders Linda Corapi and Terri Frederick; Scouts Nicole Willard, Daniela Colucci, Michelle Corapi, Alora Frederick.

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the December 5th meeting were accepted as presented. There was no January meeting due to lack of a quorum. The Treasurer's report: \$385 for operating expenses with \$100 earmarked for the speaker in May.
2. New Business – Chris introduced Linda Corapi and her Girl Scout troop explaining that they could be interested in preparing the Old Burying Ground inventory as one of their Silver Award projects. The need to mark off sections, record and photograph each of the 500+ head and footstones was discussed. Marcia will locate the Canton cemetery article for Linda to read. There is a map of the OBG created in the 1940's as part of a WPA project, which could be the basis for the gridlines. Chris is working on web enabled software that we could use to record the text/pictures of the headstones.
3. Web Page - Chris reported that Stoneham has contracted with a company call Virtual Town Hall to create town web pages. Go live is tentatively set for March. Chris reported that Tom Cicatelli said there would be no link from the Stoneham pages to our Historical Commission page. The members viewed the HC web page at <http://www.stonehamhistoricalcommission.us>. The page is shaping up nicely and Chris has some additional modifications to make.
4. Rename Sam Miles Circle – The Board of Selectmen voted on Dec 13, 2005 to send a letter to the Planning Board regarding the correct street name and the plastic bag over the sign. Chairman Sweeney reported to Marcia that the Town still holds Mr. Santullo's bond and that it can be used a leverage to make him comply. It is not known if the Planning Board ever received the letter. Marcia will research the water bills again for the properties to see which street name was used.
5. Membership – Steve will remind Amy Brough Palmerino (channel 9) about posting a message for volunteers to the Historical Commission. Marcia met two people at "Research Your House" Day who may be worth approaching.

6. Annual Report – Steve will work on the Annual Report (calendar year 2005) and deliver it to Muriel Doherty as soon as possible. Marcia will send photos to Muriel.
7. Funding for Fire Station Restoration– Brian Domoretzky, Legislative Aide to Paul Casey, reports that the Supplemental Budget remains in a House/Senate Conference Committee, where members are working towards a compromise on different versions passed by each branch. He continues to be hopeful that the \$200,000 will remain untouched as the language and dollar amount is the same in both versions.
8. Tudor Barn – David reported that the restoration of the historic building, as a partnership of the DCR and Friends of the Fells, is progressing, but incomplete. The masonry rebuild and the new structure is in place. Currently there is blue tarp covering a portion of the roof. The work is expected to be completed in the spring.
9. Spot Pond Brook Bridge Rehabilitation – in a letter dated Nov 29, 2005, the Massachusetts Historical Commission opined that DCR's project to rebuild the failed arch of the bridge would have "no adverse effect" on the Spot Pond Archaeological District. Wendy Pearl of the DCR plans to have contractors work on the project of the winter because the bridge is so deteriorated.
10. Central School Building – Marcia has not photographed the Central School yet so that the Commission can pursue adding the building to the state's MACRIS database. Chris can arrange for the film to be processed to provide archival quality photographs for the submission.
11. Correspondence
 - Realtor Carolyn Lassiter notified Marcia Wengen that the Padilla Beard House at 18 Maple Street was sold to Mark and Margaret Warren. She described them as "a lovely couple who have an appreciation and fondness of history". The house is on the National Register and dates to ca. 1850.
 - Bee Russo provided the HC with a copy of a letter from Julie Koprek Comerford whose family lived in the Warren Sweetser House for 41 years. Mrs. Comerford of Old Saybrook, CT. wrote the letter to Rick Johnson to thank him for saving the house.
 - Mary P. Shanahan, Principal of Saint Patrick School, wrote a thank you note for the gift of the Images of Stoneham book to their library.
 - Brona Simon of the Massachusetts Historical Commission wrote a letter to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs dated December 23, 2005 noting that MHC's November 14th comments on the Langwood Commons Notice of Project Change (NPC) were not included the NPC and recommended that EOEA consider MHC's comments in their review.

- A letter was sent to Cheryl Noble, Building Inspector, regarding the deed restriction on the ca. 1830-40 house at 342 William Street. Copies of the January 9, 2006 letter were sent to the Selectmen, the Planning Board and the Town Administrator. Chris recommended that we draft a letter to the real estate agents regarding this preservation incentive.
- 12. SHC Library – Mary Todd is willing to give us a shelf in the Stoneham Room for our small library of 15 books, but she does not have the staff to catalogue them and cannot assume responsibility for their safety. Marcia was asked to check with Mary about the cost of alarm strips for the volumes. Chris is willing to add them to the SHC web page and suggested the web links for the National Register Bulletins be also added.
- 13. Demo Delay by-law – All members have the draft copy. We need a marketing plan before taking this to Town Meeting.
- 14. Preservation Initiatives – The drafted letter regarding North Reading's zoning ordinance that allows lot size and frontage reductions in the interest of preservation should be directed to the Planning Board. We will wait until after the April 4th town elections.

The meeting ended at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 6, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the February 6th meeting were accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report: \$385 for operating expenses with \$100 earmarked for the speaker in May.
2. Web Page - Chris reported that Tom Cicatelli has agreed to a static web page for the Commission with one or more links to our own page. There will be no user password because of the \$300 annual cost. Chris continues to fine-tune our web page to look more like the town web page. Chris is working on a database to capture gravestone text and pictures using a software package called PHPMagicPlus. He can envision expanding it to include a historical house inventory for the Commission and vital records for the Town or the Historical Society. Chris will explore the feasibility David's idea to capture the data on a palmpilot and have it load to the actual database.
3. OBG Inventory – Chris has heard nothing from Linda Corapi about the inventory project. Both he and Marcia will follow-up with her.
4. Rename Sam Miles Circle – Marcia reported that Water Department records document the street as Micah's Pond Way. The plastic bag is still on the sign.
5. Membership – Steve reported that Amy Brough Palmerino (channel 9) did post the message for volunteers to the Historical Commission. Marcia will follow-up with two people from "Research Your House" Day and Kevin Crowley who lives in an old house on Keene Street.
6. Annual Report – Steve presented the Annual Report for 2005. One addition was suggested regarding on-going vacancies. Steve will e-mail the document to Muriel Doherty.
7. Funding for Fire Station Restoration– no additional information from Brian Domoretsky, Legislative Aide to Paul Casey. Apparently the \$200,000 is still in a House/Senate Conference Committee.
8. Tudor Barn – no changes to the barn. The blue tarp is still in the roof.

9. Central School Building – Marcia has not photographed the Central School yet so that the Commission can pursue adding the building to the state’s MACRIS database. Chris can arrange for the film to be processed to provide archival quality photographs for the submission.

10. SHC Library – Our 15 books have their book plated and Mary is willing it install the alarm strips at no charge. Chris is willing to add them to the SHC web page and suggested the web links for the National Register Bulletins be also added.

New Business

11. Heritage Award – Marcia will submit a press release to the papers for Heritage Award nominations due by April 21st. We will vote at our May 2nd meeting and probably give the award at the May 23rd Selectmen’s meeting.

12. Historic Property Awards -Chris presented an award program that the Southbridge Historical Commission adopted called “Well Maintained Historic Property Awards”. Marcia will discuss at the next Master Plan meeting as they have a similar program as part of their new Beautification Award. Steve wants to be sure this property award does not conflict with our annual Heritage Award.

13. Historic District Bronze Plaque – Chris presented this as an option for homeowner’s. We could offer the plaques at cost on our web page. Any money collected would need to go into the town’s general fund or perhaps to the Historical Society. Marcia will check on a composite material that might serve as an alternative to bronze.

The meeting ended at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 2, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen

Guest: Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. He reported that Attorney Solomon declared 3 members a quorum since it is a majority of the current members. Chris' application will be voted on at the May 9 Selectmen's meeting. The following business was transacted:

1. Reports – The minutes for the March 6 meeting were accepted as presented. The Treasurer's report: \$385 for operating expenses with \$100 earmarked for the speaker on May 11. An \$49.99 invoice was approved for a tent canopy to be used at Town Day. The new balance will be \$235.01. On page 30 of the Annual Town report, our Donation account is listed as "Stoneham Historical Com Square Parking Study". Marcia will discuss this error with Ron Castignetti.
2. Web Page - Chris reported that the Town web page is up, as of March 31, but there is no information on the Historical Commission. He continues to work on our web page so that the design and colors will resemble the Town page.
3. Rename Sam Miles Circle – The plastic bag remains off the street sign "Micah's Pond Way".
4. Membership – Joan Quigley from Merrow Lane was invited to this evening's meeting as a guest. Marcia will check to see if she is still interested.
5. OBG Inventory – In an effort to automate the inventory of the Old Burying Ground as much as possible, Chris will approach vendors about supplying the Girl Scouts with PalmPilots. He asked for a letter of support from the Historical Commission that he could include with these requests. He would be working to get everything donated. If he can only get the PalmPilots then he could create the software for free or he would have the option of purchasing a program which would cost \$40-\$60 for each unit. Marcia will work on a series of actual headstone photographs that will serve as an inventory guide for the Scouts.
6. Heritage Award – The members voted to present the 2006 Heritage Award to Helen, Norma and Robert Lister for their lifelong commitment to preserving Stoneham' history and for adding a preservation restriction to the deed for 342 William Street which they sold in November, 2005. Chris was able to

access an e-mail from Bee Russo and Betty Whelan nominating the Lister Family. The announcement will be made at the May 23 Selectmen's meeting.

7. Preservation Month - Alan Seaburg, the speaker on "Frederic Tudor, Ice King" will be at our joint meeting with the Historical Society on Thursday May 11.

The meeting ended at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 14, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Chris Willard

Guest: Joan Quigley

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

1. Board Reorganization – The members agreed to serve in the following capacities: Stephen -Chair, Christopher – Vice Chair, David – Treasurer and Marcia – Secretary.
2. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the May 2, 2006 meeting were accepted as presented.
3. Treasurer's Report – David reported expenses of \$50 for the Town Day canopy, \$100 for the Preservation speaker and \$30 for the Heritage award. The account balance is \$205. Marcia presented an invoice for \$50 for flowers given to the Heritage Award recipients. The members agreed to pay the invoice. Chris reported that hosting the web site is \$3.95 (\$47.40/yr) a month and he will look for an invoice. There will be a \$3.00 invoice to inscribe the Heritage Award plaque. The balance in our account is estimated to be \$104.
4. Meeting Schedule – A draft of the 2006-2007 meeting schedule was distributed. The Sept, Jan and May meetings will be at the Senior Center. The first Monday of the month meetings will be at the Public Library.
5. Funding the Fire Station Restoration – A draft of a letter to Chief Lamey regarding the \$200,000 in the State Budget for the fire station was presented. In addition to supporting his need to make building safety improvements and relocate the kitchen, the Commission asked that he reserve some of the money for minor repairs, repointing some of the brick work and scraping/painting the trim. Steve will revise the draft.
6. Web Site – Chris and Marcia will meet during the summer so Marcia can learn how to update the Web page.
7. Membership – Joan Quigley might be interested in joining the Commission. There is a one-year term and two two-year terms to be filled.
8. Old Burying Ground - Linda Corapi's Girl Scout troop has decided against the inventory project for their Silver Award. The project does not lend itself

to the criteria for their Silver Award. Chris discussed the possibility of approaching the Community Service program at the High School. Joan Quigley noted that her husband's scouts may be interested for their Eagle Award.

9. Preservation Conference – Steve noted that the Mass Historical Commission's statewide Preservation Conference, entitled "Serving Neighborhoods Through Preservation", will be held on Wednesday September 20 beginning at 8:30 am.
10. Book purchases – The members voted to purchase preservation books and donate them to the Public Library. The cost is not to exceed \$100. Marcia will discuss possible book titles with Mary Todd.

The meeting ended at 8:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 11, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen

Excused: Christopher Willard

Guest: Joan Quigley

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the June 14, 2006 meeting were accepted with one spelling correction.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that \$385 is budgeted for FY'07. He estimated the balance in our FY '06 account to be \$59 and will confirm that with Deb Pettingill and give us a report at the next meeting.
3. Web Site – No report in Chris' absence. Marcia was unable to meet with Chris over the summer to learn Web page administration.
4. Membership – Joan Quigley wrote a letter to the Selectmen. She may be appointed at tomorrow evening's meeting. Steve noted that Joanne DiMambro may be interested in joining the Commission.
5. OBG Inventory – Joan noted that for an Eagle Scout project, the Scout has to conceive the project, obtain approval and manage it to completion. Her husband, Bill, is willing to come to our October 2 meeting to discuss options.
6. Book Donations – The members reviewed the five preservation books that were purchased for the Library. Marcia will check with Mary Todd about a time to do the presentation. Given that two of the books are field guides, it makes sense for them to circulate. Marcia will check on the circulation question.
7. Town Day – The HC will staff a booth at Town Day on September 16. The theme is the Old Burying Ground. We may be able to attract interested citizens to help with the inventory project.
8. Proposed Fallon Road Cell Tower –Mass Historical Commission sent a July 25, 2006 letter to EBI Consulting requesting a photographic simulation of the proposed telecommunications monopole from multiple vantage points along Fellsway West and from within the historic districts referenced in the letter. We will receive copies of the photos.

9. Home Depot Site – Mass Historical Commission sent an August 9, 2006 letter to the Environmental Secretary regarding their four concerns: road modifications to North Border Road, signalization improvements at North Border Road, South Street and Rte 28, traffic impacts on the Historic District Parkways and the potential effects of new construction on the character and setting of the adjacent and proximate historic properties.

10. Open Forum: Marcia noted that the Cogan House at 10 Flint Ave is again for sale. A Stoneham resident from Hersam Street is interested in restoring it to a one family house and expanding the back wall for kitchen improvements. Marcia explained that the National Register status does not impact either of these projects. Steve noted that he was contacted about the slate roof on the Botume House.

The meeting ended at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 2, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Joan Quigley, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Guests: Carol Nickerson, Bill Quigley, John Simeone, Zack Kline

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Mary Todd, Library Director, was presented with five preservation books that will be catalogued and circulated from the Stoneham Room. A presentation of five preservation books

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the September 11, 2006 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that \$385 is budgeted for FY'07. The closing balance for June 30th was \$60 (rounded).
3. Correspondence – A copy of the thank you letter from Helen and Norma Lister was distributed to the members.
4. Membership – Joan Quigley was sworn in by John Hanright. Her term expires April 30, 2008. Steve will check with Joanne DiMambro on the status of her letter to the Selectmen.
5. Web Site – Chris may have time in November to review the web site administration with Marcia. In the interim, he will reset the password for us. User name is our first initial and last name. Marcia will develop the standard information for the Town's web page (check the Town's resource booklet).
6. Town Day – Town Day, September 16, was successful. Carol Nickerson and John Simeone are guests this evening because of our Old Burying ground exhibit on Town Day.
7. Fallon Road Cell Tower – EBI Consulting has not sent the requested photographic simulation of the proposed telecommunications monopole on Fallon Road.
8. OBG Inventory – Steve reviewed the Find-A-Grave website on which he listed to graves from the OBG (Samuel Sprague and Reverend Osgood). Chris reviewed the gravestone link on our web page and a software package he is evaluating that allows searches on every piece of data. We would need donations to load the software onto plampilots. John Simeone

discussed “CemEditor” software that he found on the web. Chris will evaluate.

- Is the DPW looking at software to automate their cemetery transactions?
 - Bill Quigley discussed the Eagle Scout requirements, which include a project plan with cost estimates, 3 levels of approvals, 200-400 volunteer hours, and completion no later than the day before the scout’s 18th birthday. The group discussed the creation of 15 ft grid squares, the need for a numbering scheme, photographs, possible subprojects, cemetery etiquette and a demonstration of how to transcribe the data from the headstone to paper or to a database. Bill will discuss this opportunity with his scouts and get back to us.
 - Marcia will draft a letter to Bob Grover to give him advanced notice of our interest in inventorying the OBG. Joan noted the poor condition of the fence dividing the OBG and Mr. Mazolla’s property. Steve will talk with Town Counsel regarding use of the cemetery fund and liability issues during the inventory process.
9. Open Forum –
- The members reviewed a Mass Historical Commission document provided by Ron Florino that outlines the details of the \$200,000 Fire Station renovation project. Chris noted that no scope of work is attached. Marcia noted a concern expressed by Town Counsel at the Sept 12 Selectmen’s meeting that the preservation restriction “in perpetuity” may too long.
 - Joan noted that a house was demolished on Tremont Street. Marcia will speak with Cheryl Noble, Building Inspector, about getting access to the list of issued demolition permits.

The meeting ended at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 6, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Stephen Rotondi, Joanne DiMambro, Marcia Wengen,
Absent: Joan Quigley, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:24 PM.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the October 2, 2006 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07.
3. Membership – Joanne DiMambro was appointed by the Selectmen until her term expires on April 30, 2008. She does not have an appointment letter and has not been sworn in by John Hanright. Marcia reported that Carol Nickerson has submitted a letter to the Selectmen. She is unable to attend this evening but looking forward to becoming a member.
4. Web Site – no report in Chris's absence.
5. Old Burying Ground
 - Marcia reported that there are four Cemetery Trust Funds (two are expendable and two are non-expendable) listed in the Town's Annual report, according to John Warren, Chair of the Finance and Advisory Board. He would be willing to discuss the Commission proposing a warrant article to access a portion of those funds for the OBG. He would also give us space in the Warrant Book he compiles for Town Meeting for a picture/brief history of the OBG.
 - Steve is interested in creating a video about the "final addresses of famous Stonehamites" in which the HC members would tour the OBG and discuss the history of the Town's founding families. David has a working knowledge of video equipment. Steve will discuss the project with Amy at Community TV. This project could create the interest in funding for much needed headstone restoration and tree repair.
 - Steve noted that Town Counsel advised notifying Mr. Grover at the DPW about our OBG inventory project. There is liability insurance coverage for volunteers. We need to contact Deb Pettengill, Secretary to the Town Administrator, in advance.

6. Cell Towers

- EBI Consulting has received a notice dated 8/18/06 from the Massachusetts Historical Commission that the cell tower project at 100 Fallon Road “is unlikely to affect significant historic or archaeological resources.” We did not receive notice of MHC approval. Marcia was told in an e-mail by EBI that approval had been granted. Upon request, MHC forwarded a copy of the approval.
 - There is a second EBI project located near Fellsway-West at the Route 93 South entrance. The HC did not receive initial notification about this project from EBI. We were notified when MHC asked EBI for photo simulations of the proposed monopole disguised as a flag pole. Based on the submitted photos and a discussion of the location, the members voted unanimously to support the project as proposed.
7. National Register – Paul Foley, a resident of 32 Forest Street, contacted the HC about listing his 1905 home on the National Register. He is also interested in having a historic house plaque and keeping his home from the fate of 357 William Street. He was invited to this meeting but did not appear. Marcia will follow-up.
8. Town Resource Book – The members approved the wording in 1999-2000 Town Resource Book for the Historical Commission to be used on the Town’s Web page.
9. Open Forum
- David shared his concerns about the fate of Redstone Shopping Center and the rumors that it could be demolished for condos. Redstone was built in the 1950’s.

The meeting ended at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 4, 2006 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Carol Nickerson, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen

Absent: David Armato, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the November 6, 2006 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – Marcia reported for David that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07.
3. Membership – Steve congratulated the members as we now have a full board for the first time in 3 years.
4. Web Site – no report in Chris's absence; Steve will review a draft of the letter asking for space on the Town's web site for the Historical Commission.
5. Old Burying Ground
 - Steve reported that Amy Brough of Stoneham TV is willing to run a class to teach us how to take and edit videos.
 - In preparation for creating a video about the "final addresses of famous Stonehamites" the members agreed to research the following founders who are buried in the OBG: Jonathan Green – Joan; Timothy Wright – Carol, Peter Hay – Steve, Timothy Baldwin – David, Rev Osgood – Joanne, Samuel Sprague – Marcia
 - Joan reported that Zack Kline is considering an Eagle Scout project involving the OBG. Marcia requested that the Commission review his proposal.
 - Marcia will research methodologies to calculate date of birth from headstones that have date of death and length of life in years, months, days and e-mail the information to members.
6. New Business
 - January is the month to present our F'08 budget to the Town Administrator and to prepare our annual report for the Town's Annual Report that is issued at the May Town meeting.

- Steve announced a program at the Hynes Convention Center from March 7-10, 2007 called "Restoring the Past, Building the Future." Marcia has the special pass for free admission to the exhibits.

The meeting ended at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen,
Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 8, 2007 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen

Absent: Carol Nickerson, Joan Quigley, Christopher Willard

Steve Rotondi called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the December 4, 2006 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07. He presented a tentative budget of \$385 for FY'08. Marcia will deliver it to Ron Florino tomorrow.
3. Membership – David announced that he plans to reapply before his term expires on April 30, 2007. Carol Nickerson will also need to reapply as she is filling a vacated term.
4. Web Site – no report in Chris's absence; Steve will review a draft of the letter asking for space on the Town's web site for the Historical Commission.
5. Old Burying Ground
 - Joan sent an e-mail asking for access to the Historical Society files since she has not been successful in her quest for information on Jonathan Green. Marcia will follow-up with the HS.
 - In working on the story line, the members agreed that it makes sense to present the Stonehamites in the following order: Peter Hay, Timothy Wright, Rev. Osgood, Timothy Baldwin, Jonathan Green, Samuel Sprague.
 - Members will continue their research. Joanne asked about the possibility of presenting the first town meeting of 1725.
6. New Business
 - Steve reviewed highlights of 2006 in preparation for his annual report.
 - Marcia handed out copies of the Mass Historical Commission (MHC) letter of Dec 26, 2006 that determined "no adverse effect" on historic properties for the proposed Fellsway West telecommunications installation and the nomination package for the MHC 2007 Preservation Awards Program.
 - David reported that St. Patrick Church may be organizing their own church history committee.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Marcia Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 5, 2007 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Joanne DiMambro, Carol Nickerson, Joan Quigley
Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Chris Willard called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m. Steve Rotondi joined the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the January 8, 2007 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07.
3. Web Site
 - Chris will redirect e-mails sent to the HC web page to our home e-mail addresses. He can give us response capability without divulging our home e-mails.
 - Chris will send Marcia the access to various tutorials about managing the web page.
 - Chris will experiment with reproducing an aerial view of Meeting House Ridge and the OBG for our use on the web page and/ possibly the OBG video.
4. Old Burying Ground
 - Carol and Joanne reported great success in researching the OBG at the Historical Society last Saturday. Marcia will follow-up about another time for additional research.
 - Steve reported that Amy Palmerino is willing to meet with us to discuss the OBG video. She supports the creation of a storyboard outlining the scenes in the video. He will ask her to attend our March meeting. There are no time restrictions on the video; it can be as long or a short as we see fit.
 - This video is yet another tool for teaching the history of Stoneham. The members discussed making copies available to the public schools. Bob Hogan at the High School may be able to help.
 - At Steve's request, Marcia will send the "Trolley Tales" script to members.
5. Annual Report – Steve will write the annual report for the March meeting. Marcia will make copies of the Heritage Award and Book Presentation photos.

6. Fire Station

- The \$200,000 State allocation for repair of the Fire Station ends on June 30, 2007. Marcia presented the draft of a 12-month timeline outlining the necessary tasks.
- Mass Historical Commission (MHC) is willing to pre-release funds for a preservation architect (PA) to prepare an assessment of the exterior condition and proposed renovation of kitchen. This pre-release requires a signed preservation restriction, a signed state contract and a Request for Proposal approved by the MHC for a Preservation Architect to do the work.
- A signed Preservation Restriction (PR) requires a vote at Town Meeting. Two key points of this “in perpetuity” PR are that the building must have adequate maintenance and the MHC must have full review and approval of all subsequent alterations.
- A PR goes on the deed and passes to subsequent owners should the Town ever sell the building. Paul Holtz of MHC told Marcia that his organization looks favorably on adaptive reuse of buildings and would also consider an addition to the existing fire station if it was “sympathetic” to the original design of the building.
- Chris will discuss this project with the new Town Administrator. Marcia will confirm that the funding became available on July 1, 2006 and investigate why the allocation is only for 1 year. (Paul Holtz at MHC explained that these State allocations are normally for 3 years.) Marcia will investigate the requirements for a warrant article regarding the Preservation Restriction to be presented at the May Town Meeting.

There is no business for the Open Forum.

The meeting ended at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 22, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Only 3 members were able to attend the meeting, Joan Quigley, Marcia Wengen and Christopher Willard. The meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 5, 2007 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: David Armato, Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Excused: Carol Nickerson, Joan Quigley

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes - The minutes of the February 6, 2007 and the February 22, 2007 meeting were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report – David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07.
3. Annual Report – Steve presented our 2006 annual report. Minor corrections were made. Two photos, the Library book presentation and the Heritage Award, will also appear in the Town report distributed at the May Town Meeting.
4. Web Site
 - Chris will redirect e-mails sent to the HC web page to our home e-mail addresses. He can give us response capability without divulging our home e-mails.
 - Chris' bookmarked tutorial for XOOPS has disappeared.
5. Fire Station
 - During a February 23 meeting, David Ragucci, new Town Administrator, identified three concerns: 1) if the project is started but not finished before June 30, can the \$200,000 be encumbered?, 2) he needs to read the state contract that the Town is expected to sign and 3) does the project cost more because of the preservation requirements?
 - Deane Rykerson, a preservation architect, will meet with David Ragucci on March 9 to provide a no-fee preliminary assessment of what is involved in complying with the Secretary of Interior's Standards. HC members are invited.
 - Chris argued for an expedited approach that divides the duties of the preservation architect (PA). First, have a PA write the job specifications and begin the bid process. Second, write an RFP for a PA to manage the project to completion.
 - The members discussed the use of Access TV to advocate for approval of the Preservation Restriction. Tom Doyle and Edie Previdi (currently produce "Made in Stoneham") could be approached about filming the panel discussion.

- In the future we may want to consider adding a preservation restriction to the Senior Center. Another tool to protect buildings in the central business district is a local historic district designation. Today the Central Square Historic District is listed on the National Register but this designation does not offer much protection for the buildings.
6. Old Burying Ground
- Marcia noted that Mary Marchant was helpful in finding information on Timothy Baldwin and Samuel Sprague.
 - Each member should draft a script or an outline for their character.
 - Amy Palmerino could not attend tonight's meeting.
 - The members discussed the introduction for the video.
 - John Simeone e-mailed Marcia to say that he is available to help with the OBG inventory.
7. Heritage Award
- Call for nominations will be sent to the Independent and the SUN. Due date is March 28.
 - Three suggestions were made: Bee Russo, Gail Melkonian and Joe Cunningham.

There is no business for the Open Forum.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 2, 2007 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Access TV Studio

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

Excused: Carol Nickerson

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of the March 5, 2007 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07.

3. Annual Report

Steve reported that our revised annual report and photos were accepted for inclusion in the Annual Town Report to be distributed at the May Town Meeting.

4. Web Site

Chris provided an aerial view of the OBG taken from www.live.com. He utilized the screen capture feature, edited out the Microsoft text and the used PhotoShop to outline and label the OBG. This same procedure could be adapted to put maps or pictures of historic buildings on our web page.

5. Access TV

Amy Brough Palmerino, Executive Director of Stoneham Community Access, Inc. (aka Stoneham TV) provided an orientation this community media resource that utilizes three channels: public, government and educational to meet its mission to creating community spirit. There appear to be a number of options for filming, editing and showing our "final addresses" program.

6. Fire Station/Warrant Article

- The members viewed a portion of the Financial and Advisory Board Meeting of March 27 in which Fire Capt. Joe Rolli, FAB member Stephen Board and Marcia Wengen discussed Warrant Article 28. The article asks Town Meeting to vote to accept a preservation restriction on the Fire Station.
- Since that meeting, Representation Paul Casey has conformed that the \$200,000 state allocation ends on June 30, 2007. Thus, the only financial incentive is the possibility of using a portion of the money for the services of a preservation architect to prepare a building conditions report. Marcia will call Paul Holtz at Mass Historical Commission to discuss this option.

- A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to support Article 28 as it is written.
 - Marcia distributed a draft script that could be the basis of a program on Access TV to educate voters about the Preservation Restriction.
7. Heritage Award
Steve received a nomination from Betty Whelan for Paulene “Bee” Russo to be presented this year’s award. A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously naming Bee Russo as this year’s recipient.
8. Preservation Month
As yet there is no guest speaker for our joint meeting with the Historical Society. Mr. Puleo, author of Dark Tide, has written a new book and busy with its publicity.
9. OBG
David would like our research notes/outlines brought to the Tuesday May 8, 2007 meeting so he can begin compiling them into a script for the “final addresses” program.

There is no business for the Open Forum.

The meeting ended at 9:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 8, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen

Excused: Christopher Willard

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Reorganization
Stephen Rotondi and David Armato were reappointed by the Selectmen for three year terms. Carol Nickerson decided not to reapply. Stephen spoke with Christopher before the meeting about his interest in moving up to Chairman or remaining as Vice Chairman. The officers for 07-08 are: Stephen Rotondi, Chairman, Christopher Willard, Vice Chairman, David Armato, Treasurer and Marcia Wengen, Secretary.
2. Meeting minutes
The minutes of the April 2, 2007 were accepted with two spelling corrections in item 6.
3. Treasurer's Report
David reported that there are no expenses against the \$385 for FY'07. Marcia presented an invoice for the Heritage Award Certificate for \$30. The Preservation Month speaker at our joint meeting will cost \$75. If the Town agrees that Marcia's photocopy expenses for Warrant Article #28 can be paid, the amount will be \$60+. These expenses would result in a balance of \$220. Joan volunteered to research preservation books that we could purchase for adults and children. Marcia will confirm that our budget for FY '08 is included for next year.
4. Web Site
No update in Chris' absence.
5. Fire Station/Warrant Article
The video made by Stephen and Marcia aired on Access TV April 20-22 and April 27-29. Stephen agreed to speak for the Commission at Town Meeting in favor of the preservation restriction on the Fire Station. Marcia expects that Stephen Born, Joe Rolli and David Ragucci will all speak in favor of the article.
6. Heritage Award
Stephen will present the award to Paulene "Bee" Russo at the May 15 Selectmen's meeting. He is first on their agenda.
7. Preservation Month

Dee Morris will speak on "Victorian Soda Fountains" at the May 17 joint meeting of the Historical Society and the Historical Commission.

8. MHC Meeting

Stephen will attend a consultation meeting regarding Langwood Commons on May 9 in Boston. Marcia will e-mail the URL for the DRC's Visioning seminar regarding the Fells, in case it is discussed.

9. Final Addresses

- Stephen read the research done by Joanne (Rev Osgood), Joan (Jonathan Green) and Marcia (Samuel Sprague). David will begin compiling them into a storyline. Although technically there is no time limit, Stephen is planning that our video should not exceed a half hour.
- Marcia referenced the comment in Wilton Bucknam's "Stoneham 200 Years Ago" about "a child of Jacob Howe who died at the age of 19 and was the first white person buried in the Old Burying Yard on Pleasant Street." The Town Clerk's office has no record of such a person. If Bucknam is correct, it would make Timothy Wright the earliest burial with a headstone.

10. Open Forum

- Joan would like to have a memory stone placed in the OBG recognizing the burials of slaves and Native Americans.
- Stephen noted that the 2006 Annual Report still references our \$1,000 donation account as a parking study. Marcia will address with the Town Accountant.
- David announced that the annual meeting of the Friends of the Fells will be on Thursday May 24 at 7:00 p.m. with a presentation by Wayne Peterson.
- Stephen noted that Kevin Barile, of Barile Funeral Home, made a presentation to the Historical Society regarding his family's interest in a tree planting project.
- Marcia handed out a meeting schedule for Sept 07-June 08. She also distributed a letter from Mass Historical Commission determining "no adverse effect" from DCR's plans to replace non-historic light poles on Fellsway West in Stoneham.
- Marcia announced that 41 stick flags with 13 stars will be purchased by the Memorial Day Committee for placement in the OBG. We are asked to remove them by Flag Day on June 14.

The meeting ended at 9:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

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

Stoneham Historical Commission
Book purchase of June 6, 2007

1 of: [**In Small Things Forgotten: An Archaeology of Early American Life**](#) [Paperback] \$11.16
By: James Deetz (Author)
Sold by: Amazon.com, LLC

1 of: [**Renovating Old Houses: Bringing New Life to Vintage Homes**](#) [Paperback] \$21.12
By: George Nash (Author)
Sold by: Amazon.com, LLC

1 of: [**Stories in Stone**](#) [Hardcover] \$16.47
By: Douglas Keister (Photographer)
Sold by: Amazon.com, LLC

1 of: [**Indians of the Northeast Woodlands by Siegal, Beatrice; Bock, William...**](#) [Paperback] \$28.99
By: Beatrice Siegal (Author), William Netamuxwe Sauts Bock (Author)
Sold by: best_bargain_books3

1 of: [**The Octagon House: A Home for All by Orson Squire Fowler**](#) [Paperback] \$16.95
By: Orson Squire Fowler (Author)
Sold by: biscaynebooks

1 of: [**Discover America's Favorite Architects \(Preservation Press\) by Glenn, Patricia**](#) [Paperback] \$5.49
By: Patricia Brown Glenn (Author)
Sold by: forsythbooks

1 of: [**Renovating and Restyling Vintage Homes**](#) [Paperback] \$22.11
By: Lawrence Dworin (Author)
Sold by: Amazon.com, LLC

\$122.28 books

18.93 shipping

\$141.21 total

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 10, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: David Armato, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen

Excused: Joanne DiMambro, Christopher Willard

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of the June 4, 2007 were accepted. No meeting was held on June 18, 2007.

2. Treasurer's Report

David reviewed the expenses for FY 2007 and reported a balance of \$77 which will be turned back to the town. Ron Florino confirmed that the budget for FY 2008 is \$385.

3. Fire Station

- Marcia reported that the architectural firm of Durland VanVoorhis of New Bedford has been chosen for the study work on the Fire Station, The Existing Conditions Systems Report has been submitted. Deborah Durland described the repair she will be recommending for the joint where the apparatus floor meets the driveway. Rainwater is leaking onto the basement wall/floor. She will also be recommending that all the brick work be repointed.
- The original 1916 blue prints were located at the Mass Archives in Dorchester and all 13 sheets have been digitally archived by a professional photographer as they were too fragile to be scanned.
- All the Selectmen except Mr. Sweeney have signed the Preservation Restriction. Mr. Sweeney is apparently away on vacation.

4. Old Burying Ground

- Joan confirmed that Zach Kline's project to inventory the OBG has been approved by the Boy Scout authorities. He could start this month and she will e-mail us with a date. David suggested that a scout working on his Communications Merit Badge may be interested in filming all or some of the project. Joan will make an inquiry.
- Marcia will edit the letter to Mr. Grover at DPW and send to Steve for his review.
- Steve remembers a wooden sign in the OBG listing the names of Revolutionary War soldiers, but not a sign for the Town's slaves. Joan would like to erect a memory stone for the slaves. She is aware that Jonathan Green owned two slaves. Funds for such a project are non-existent.

- Joan and Marcia met with Deb Herook of Cleveland Fence and determined that 40 feet of the 140 chain link fence at the rear of the OBG could be replaced for \$1,000 or less. Steve Mazolla is the owner of the fence. Carol Nickerson might be interested in donating funds in memory of her parents for the repair but we would need Mr. Mazolla's permission and access to his property as a staging area for the posts and fencing.

5. Final Addresses Project

David continues to work on the script for the video which will include all four cemeteries, but focus on the OBG. Steve will contact Amy at Access TV for a time/date to learn how to use the video equipment, hopefully while David is on vacation.

6. Other Business

- Book Donation - Joan and Marcia purchased seven books to be donated to the Public Library. Mary Todd will be invited to our October meeting for the presentation.
- Traffic and Safety Improvements – Marcia will respond to the July 17 letter from Bayside Engineering regarding two intersections: Main and North Street; Main and South Street. The Historical Commission is asked to comment because it is anticipated that the project will be supported in part by federal funds, thus requiring review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. On Attachment 3, North Border Road and South Street are incorrectly identified. Also, South Street is listed as part of the Middlesex Fells Reservation Parkways Historic District, a fact that Bayside Engineering did not document in their letter.
- Historic Houses - Update on two houses listed on the State Register: Patrick Cogan's house at 12 Tremont has been sold. The old meeting house at the corner of Central and Pleasant is for sale.
- Town Day – David, Joan and Marcia will staff the Historical Commission booth on Saturday Sept 15. Marcia has printouts of several of the 1916 Fire Station blueprints.

7. New Business

David expressed interest in serving on the St. Patrick church history committee. Both Steve and David have been approached but no meeting has been convened.

The meeting ended at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 1, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

Guest: Margaret Warren, owner of the Padilla Beard House at 18 Maple Street.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. with a quorum. Chris arrived at 7:45 p.m.

1. Book Donation

Commission members presented seven books for the Public Library to Mary Todd. Two will go to the Children's Room and five will be cataloged and kept in the Stoneham Room. The list is attached to the meeting minutes of September 10.

2. Meeting minutes

The minutes of the September 10, 2007 as amended were accepted.

3. Treasurer's Report

David report of no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385 was accepted.

4. Town Day

The rainy weather kept people away. A canopy leg broke in the wind. Most vendors appear to have products made by EZ-UP. Marcia will research.

5. Fire Station

- The Preservation Restriction was registered at the Cambridge Registry of Deeds on September 25.
- A draft of the Recommendation Summary from the architectural firm of Durland VanVoorhis in New Bedford was distributed. Priority will likely be given to sealing the leaky joint where the apparatus floor meets the foundation.
- Marcia reported that David Ragucci and Chief Rolli convinced our state legislators to extend the term of the remaining \$140,000 that ended on June 30, 2007. The architect is preparing a cost summary for replacing/painting four bay doors, repairing/ painting the rusted metal trim around the building and sealing the joint described above.

6. Old Burying Ground

- Joan confirmed that Zach Kline's Eagle Scout project to inventory/photograph the OBG cannot begin sooner than Nov 17 because of his after school track commitments
- The Town of Stoneham has assumed financial responsibility for the broken chain link fence at the rear of the OBG. Cleveland Fence has a tentative date to replace 40 feet of fence on October 11. The abutter, Mr. Mazolla, will consider placing some sort of barrier on his side of the fence to limit the plowing of snow and asphalt chunks into the OBG.
- Chris recommended that we ask Mr. Grover to write a letter to Mr. Mazolla noting that damage to the fence will be his responsibility to repair.

7. Final Addresses Project

David continues to work on the script for the video which will include all four cemeteries, but focus on the OBG. Steve and David met with Amy Palmerino and learned how to use the video equipment. A video editing class will follow.

8. Web Page

Chris reported that we each have user names and a password to log on to Historic Commission web page. He is researching the use of the high school computer lab to give us lessons on our web site. He can set up a free voice mail phone number for us.

9. Other Business

- The need for a Historic House plaque program was discussed as a means of encouraging appreciation for the Town's historical assets. Margaret Warren is interested in replacing the plaque that was on her house. The Historical Commission has a role in signage governed by the Town's sign by-law. David suggested making a video of the Town's historic homes. Joan noted that the Vocational School may be a source of free or low cost plaques. Marcia will research.
- Joanne's term runs until April 30, 2008.
- David continues to be concerned about the continued existence of empty storefronts in Redstone. .

The meeting ended at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 5, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard *Excused:* David Armato
Guest: Margaret Warren, owner of the Padilla Beard House at 18 Maple Street.

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes
The minutes of the October 8 were amended to October 1 and accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report
In David's absence, Steve reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385.
3. Membership
Margaret is awaiting a response from a letter she sent to Selectmen asking to join the Historical Commission. She expressed interest in researching and writing a monthly newspaper column.
4. Fire Station
A draft of the Revised Scope of Services from the architectural firm of Durland VanVoorhis in New Bedford was distributed. This changes their \$60,000 pre-development work to include helping the Town with the bid process and conducting six site visits to observe the progress of the work after a contractor is chosen. Deborah Durland has discussed these additions with Paul Holtz at MHC. Stoneham gives up computer generated drawings of the Fire Station. Marcia will research the preparation of the completion report. Paying Deborah for this report would use up some of the remaining \$140,000.
5. Old Burying Ground
 - Joan confirmed that Zach Kline's Eagle Scout project to inventory/photograph the OBG cannot begin sooner than Nov 17 because of his after school track commitments
 - The chain link fence was replaced on October 11. A bone was found. The correct protocol when remains are accidentally uncovered was not followed. On October 16, Stoneham Detective Paul Norton visited the site and found 3 more small bones. On October 17, Dr. Anne Marie Miers, a forensic anthropologist from the Medical Examiner's Office, visited the site with a State Trooper and determined the bones were from a deer. She photographed the evidence, declared the location to be a rubbish pile and took the bones with her.

- Marcia distributed copies of the Mass Historical Commission Bulletin #4 “What to Do When Human Burials is Accidentally Uncovered.”
 - Marcia will check on the barriers that Mr. Mazolla promised to install.
6. Final Addresses Project
In David’s absence, there is no report on this project.
7. Web Page
Chris set up a free voice mail phone number that sends an e-mail. The message is accessible via the Web or by phone. The number is 781-850-3114.
8. Correspondence
Marcia distributed a letter dated October 9 from MHC to the Mass Highway Department requesting review of work done at the intersection of Rte 28 and South Street.
9. Other Business
- Marcia distributed a packet of six Historic House plaque programs ranging from \$50 to \$400. These cities and towns use this program to raise awareness about their historical environment and to encourage its preservation. How to research houses histories is an open question for us. Steve will discuss this project with the Historical Society before we develop guidelines.
 - Joan discussed her visit to the Congregation Church to look at their papers from the early 1800’s to the 1950’s. She has been in touch with Beth Bower, the Church Historian and professional archivist, who has additional information about Reverend Osgood and slavery. This treasure trove will provide additional information for the OBG project. Joan noted that Simmons College students are available for 60 hours of document preservation work at no charge.
 - Joan discussed the October 20 event at Woburn’s First Burial Ground that drew 500 people. We could consider a smaller version for our OBG video.
 - A coloring book entitled “Historical House Styles of Charlestown” was presented as another tool to celebrate our historical assets. The Porter Art Group might be able to provide line drawings.

The meeting ended at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 3, 2007 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present:, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen,

Absent: David Armato, Joanne DiMambro, Christopher Willard

Guest: Margaret Warren, owner of the Padilla Beard House at 18 Maple Street.

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of November 5, item 4 was amended from 6 to 8 sites visits and accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

In David's absence, Steve reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385.

3. Membership

Margaret is awaiting a response from a letter she sent to Selectmen asking to join the Historical Commission.

4. Fire Station

A copy of the door schedule was distributed and discussed. The project requires a 4' x 4' sign with specific wording. Steve recommended that Marcia check the Town's sign by-law.

5. Old Burying Ground

- Joan confirmed that Zach Kline has completed the on-site work to inventory/photograph the OBG. He is completing the data entry. Joan noted that some of the photos need to be retaken.
- Mr. Mazolla assured Marcia again on Nov 26 that he would put up barriers where the new fence was installed. He noted that the land is still his even though he sold the auto body business.
- Joan noted that there is graffiti on the front wall of the OBG.

6. Final Addresses Project

- David told Marcia in an earlier phone conversation that he wants to take some still photos of the headstones that will be part of our video. Steve would like to incorporate the framed photos of Stoneham England in our OBG video.
- Steve asked us to consider nominating Zach Kline for the Heritage Award if he finishes the project by May.

7. Web Page

In Chris's absence, there is no report.

8. Correspondence

Marcia distributed a letter dated November 6 from DCR introducing their new technical bulletin #5 designed to raise awareness around the identification and protection of landscape features such as cellar holes, stone walls, wells and other historic stone features. The booklet will be kept with our other resource material in the Stoneham Room.

9. Other Business

- Margaret brought her broken Padilla Beard house plaque. Marcia will research if the National Register has specifications for house plaques. Steve will discuss this project with the Historical Society before we develop guidelines.
- Joan has not heard from Beth Bower, Church Historian at the Congregation Church regarding the very early papers, especially those of Rev Osgood.
- Joan discussed the current Historical Society project that Marina and Victoria are working on regarding some early women of Stoneham, including Fannie Allyn who was a union activist for the shoe industry. Marina is the Society's new webmaster and seems knowledgeable about photography. She may be able to help us with the Stoneham England pictures.
- Joan saw a headstone at Parker Tavern in Reading and the portion that had been in the ground was virtually the same height as the inscribed section.

The meeting ended at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 7, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Resignation

Steve read David Armato's resignation from the Historical Commission dated December 27, 2007 for "personal and professional" reasons.

Joanne DiMambro agreed to be the Treasurer.

2. Meeting minutes

The minutes of December 3, 2007 were accepted.

3. Treasurer's Report

Steve reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385.

4. Membership

Margaret Warren has been appointed as a member of the Commission until April 30, 2010. Both Joan and Joanne's terms expire on April 30, 2008 and they will each need to write a letter to the Selectmen in late March.

5. Fire Station

A copy of the required sign for the project was presented. The wording has been approved by the Mass Historical Commission and Chief Rolli has agreed to find a vendor to make the sign. By our February meeting the specifications for the three projects (bay doors, foundation leak and trim painting) should be complete.

6. Old Burying Ground

- Joan's 12 hours of data entry (from paper OBG inventory sheets to WORD) was lost in a computer malfunction and will need to be re-entered. Joan noted that some of the photos need to be retaken.
- Marcia needs to follow-up on the auto body company's barriers where the new fence was installed.
- Joan/Marcia will deal with the graffiti on the front wall of the OBG in the spring.

7. Final Addresses Project

- Steve will contact David for the OBG scripts that he was working on. Joan has a friend who currently videos church services. Joan will also check with the Woburn Historical Society to ask if they videoed the first burial ground event last October.

- Margaret agreed to research Timothy Wright. Joan will research Timothy Baldwin.
- Sarah Lynde, as the last burial, may provide a suitable ending for the first video.

8. Web Page

Chris has been in touch with Donna Cargill at the High School about our using the computer lab to be trained in the HC web page.

9. New Business

There was no memo in our mail box today regarding a due date for the Annual Report.

10. Other Business

- Joan has permission from Beth Bower, Church Historian at the Congregation Church, to access the very early papers, especially those of Rev Osgood. The padlock key is missing but perhaps it can be broken and a new padlock installed.
- The Town Hall windows are not in jeopardy of being replaced because of their size and expense. The Town Administrator will continue to use Kevin McLaughlin to repair them. So-called "invisible" storm windows are recommended by Historic New England. If the Town were to pursue grant money for these storm windows, it would be useful to have Town Hall listed on the State Register of Historical Places. Marcia will work on a draft for Form B.

The meeting ended at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 4, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Excused: Joan Quigley

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

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of January 7, 2008 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

Joanne reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385.

3. Membership

Muriel Doherty suggested Joan and Joanne wait until March when the ad runs before submitting letters of interest.

4. Fire Station

Copies of the project specifications for painting, sheet metal work, sealants, door replacement and foundation repairs were presented. The architect sent the paper work to MHC on Friday so that Paul Holtz will prepare a contract and release the \$140,000.

5. Old Burying Ground

- Nothing new but Marcia needs to follow-up on the auto body company's barriers where the new fence was installed and Joan/Marcia will deal with the graffiti on the front wall of the OBG in the spring.

6. Final Addresses Project

- Steve will contact David for the OBG scripts.
- Sarah Lynde's obituary was distributed. She was the last burial (1924) in OBG.

7. Web Page

- Chris will confirm a meeting time with Donna Cargill at the High School about our using the computer lab to be trained in the HC web page.
- Marcia reported the receipt of an e-mail notification that the "free" phone number on our web page would be discontinued soon.

8. Annual Report

Steve has not completed the Annual Report. We are still searching for a photo of Zack Kline and his inventory crew.

9. Other Business

- Marcia reported that Joan continues to work at the Congregational Church to access the very early papers, especially those of Rev Osgood.
- Work on the Form B for the Town Hall and possibly North School has begun.
- Steve recalled the history of the portrait in the McCarthy Hearing Room.

The meeting ended at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 3, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham High School

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard.

Excused: Joan Quigley

Before the official meeting, Chris Willard conducted an educational session on how to make modifications to our web page at www.stonehamhistoricalcommission.us

The meeting was called to order at 8:42 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes
The minutes of February 4, 2008 were accepted.
2. Treasurer's Report
Joanne reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385.
3. Fire Station
Copies of the architect's cost estimates totaling \$140,000 were distributed. This document has been sent to MHC and will part of the contract between the state and Stoneham.
4. Annual Report
Steve distributed copies of the 2007 Annual Report. No changes were made by the members. A copy will be sent to Muriel Doherty.
5. Final Address Project
 - Marcia reported that David Armato shredded the scripts for the OBG video. Members will check for copies of their scripts.
 - Marcia reported that Tom Doyle would be willing to video our OBG project. He can edit for a final product but will need a DVD of any photos or maps we would like him to insert into the video. He is not sure what format is required, but will find out.
6. Old Burying Ground
 - Nothing new but Marcia needs to follow-up on the auto body company's barriers where the new fence was installed and Joan/Marcia will deal with the graffiti on the front wall of the OBG in the spring.

7. Heritage Award

- Marcia distributed a letter dated February 20, 2008 from David Armato nominating the Friends of the Fells for our Heritage Award.
- Marcia will advertise in the SUN and Independent for nominations due April 2, 2008 to Stephen Rotondi, Chairman.
- Steve suggested that we consider Zach Kline for his project to inventory the head and foot stones in the OBG.

8. Other Business

- Steve announced that the Preservation Week speaker will be Jay Robbins, Jr., great-great grandson of John Botume. It is not known if he charges a fee.
- Steve announced that the Historical Society is interested in participating in a historical plaque program. Marcia will draft possible policies/procedures for both organizations to review.

The meeting ended at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 7, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

Excused: Margaret Warren

Guest: Keith MacLeod, Zachary Kline

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of March 3, 2008 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

Joanne reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385.

3. Web Site

Chris reported that our web site has a new host as previous host was loading our screens too slowly. The content looks somewhat different but the address remains the same: www.stonehamhistoricalcommission.us.

4. Eagle Scout Project

Zachary Kline presented his electronic inventory of 349 head/footstones and 3 tombs that was begun in November, 2007 and has involved "hundreds" of hours of work toward his Eagle Scout rank. He needs a letter from the HC for his final report. He agreed to provide us with a copy of the report. Steve thanked him for a job well done.

5. Fire Station

Copies of the legal notice inviting bids on exterior painting, overhead door replacement and concrete floor repairs were distributed. To date, 17 contractors have requested bid documents. A site visit for the contractors is scheduled for April 10 at 10:00 a.m. The bids are due on April 17 at 3:00 p.m.

6. Final Address Project

Members have copies of their scripts. Joan has not had much luck researching Timothy Baldwin. Margaret was absent and could not report on her progress with Timothy Wright.

7. Old Burying Ground

Nothing new but Marcia needs to follow-up on the auto body company's barriers where the new fence was installed and Joan/Marcia will deal with the graffiti on the front wall of the OBG in the spring.

8. Heritage Award

- There were no letters in response to the April 2 deadline for nominations.
- Marcia distributed a copy of a web page from the National Trust for Historic Preservation describing the repairs made to the historic Tudor Barn as a follow-up to David Armato's nomination of the Friends of the Fells. They were instrumental in raising \$15,000 for the project.
- Steve nominated Zachary Kline for the Award based on his ambitious project to inventory and photograph the head/foot stones in the Old Burying Ground. Discussion ensued and the members agreed to present the Award to Zachary Kline.
- Steve will confirm the presentation at the May 20th Selectmen's meeting.

9. House Plaque Program

- Marcia distributed a draft of guidelines for a Historical Plaque Program. Steve suggested that the date range of 1700 to 1945 be replaced with an age range; i.e. 50 or 75 years old. Steve would prefer to use the \$1,000 for a memorial stone in the OBG or a plaque on the Town Common.
- Samples of programs from three other towns were distributed. Even if we opted for the "turnkey" approach offered by New England Historical Markings, we still have the problem of who does the research.
- Members will review the draft and bring their comments to the May meeting.

10. New Business

- The Tudor Barn has been tagged with graffiti. Based on correspondence with Wendy Pearl, Preservation Planner, the DCR is working with a professional contractor to remove it safely.
- After much research, there are two options for a portable canopy for Town Day. The E-ZUP Company offers one with removable sides (\$242.73) or no sides (\$156.44). A decision is needed at the next meeting as the fiscal year ends on June 30, 2008.

The meeting ended at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 6, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of April 7, 2008 were accepted. Marcia reported that as of April 29 the graffiti was gone from the Tudor Barn. Also, Keith MacLeod expressed interest in joining the HC, but he has been accepted at Oxford to study for a master's degree and will likely be leaving for the UK this summer.

2. Treasurer's Report

In Joanne's absence, Steve reported no expenses against our FY 2008 budget of \$385. Marcia has a bill for \$30 for the Heritage Award certificate.

3. Fire Station

The required "Preservation Works" sign was erected on April 24. The award letters totaling \$95,630, were mailed on May 2 to the three lowest bidders. Allowed expenses against the \$140,000 will be under \$1,000 (for postage, printing, signage, legal advertising, etc.) Marcia is working with the preservation architect regarding another project to spend the remaining \$43,000+/-.

4. Web Site

No report in Chris' absence. If Marcia cannot upload the April and May minutes, she will forward them to Chris.

5. Heritage Award

The presentation is scheduled for the Tuesday May 20 at the 7:00 p.m. Selectmen's meeting. Steve discussed Zachary's biography with the members. Joan will speak with her husband, Scoutmaster for Troop 513, concerning other information he might have about Zachary.

6. House Plaque Program

- Members discussed the need to streamline the application procedure. Margaret agreed to edit the document and draft an application for our next meeting.
- Steve presented the idea of a HC logo that could be in the shape of house plaque were decided on.

- The research packet idea was dismissed because of lack of volunteer help to do the work. No subsidy will be offered from the HC donation account.

7. Final Address Project

Steve presented his opening statements for the video. Joan completed research on Timothy Baldwin and Jacob Gould, Stoneham's unsolved murder. A planning session is scheduled for Monday June 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

8. New Business

- An 80 foot cell tower is proposed for the northeast corner of St. Patrick's Cemetery. A petition is being circulated asking the Archdiocese to cancel this project that is disrespectful to the families with loved ones buried in the cemetery.
- Marcia thinks this project will fall under the purview of Mass Historic in their capacity to review and comment on certain state and federally licensed, permitted, or funded projects to determine whether or not the proposed project will have an impact on historic or prehistoric properties (National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106). The historic structure in question would be the Senior Center, our 1852 almshouse.
- The members agreed to purchase the \$156.44 portable canopy for Town Day. Margaret will research the purchase of approximately \$119 worth of preservation books that we could donate to the Library. A \$75 honorarium will go to Jay Robbins, our preservation month speaker.

The meeting ended at 9:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 2, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of May 6, 2008 were accepted.

2. Reorganization

The members voted on the following slate of officers: Steve Rotondi, Chairman, Chris Willard, Vice Chairman, Joanne DiMambro, Treasurer and Marcia Wengen, Secretary. A meeting schedule for 2008-2009 and a membership roster was distributed.

3. Treasurer's Report

Joanne reported the following expenses: \$75 honorarium for Jay Robbins, preservation month speaker, \$30 + \$4.80 Heritage Award for Zachary Kline and \$156.98 for a portable canopy leaving a balance of \$118.22. Margaret presented her research for preservation book purchases and the members voted to use up to \$118 for this donation to the Library.

4. Fire Station

- The procurement checklists for the three major projects (painting, masonry and overhead doors) have been submitted to Mass Historical for a total of \$105,193 leaving a balance of \$34,807.
- Bids for historic window replacement will be opened on June 12. The plan is to replace the six windows in the front and ask for an "each" price that will allow us to use as much of the remaining funds as possible.
- The presence of lead in the existing cornice paint is being questioned. Board of Health Inspector Bracey's on site lead determination test came back negative. The preservation architect is recommending that samples be tested in an approved laboratory and is awaiting a response from the Town Administrator, as this will be an added expense.
- A copy of the Cornice Paint Study required by Mass Historical was distributed. The original trim color was a medium gray. Paul Holtz at Mass Historical has agreed to let us use the existing cream color which has been on the building for at least 60 years.
- The preservation architect is awaiting a schedule from the mason, who will be the first to start work.

5. Web Site

Chris will be available if Marcia needs help uploading March, April and May minutes.

6. Heritage Award

Joan will request two additional CD's of the OBG inventory so they can be distributed to the Historical Society and the Public Library.

7. House Plaque Program

- Margaret presented a streamlined version of the procedure and a sample application. A few minor corrections will be made before Steve presents the document to the Historical Society.
- Margaret will contact Gamit Signs on Spencer Street to determine the level of interest in being the sole vendor to the house plaques.
- If homeowners do not have deed or census information, we estimate that houses built before 1850 will need research at the Registry of Deeds in Cambridge.

8. Final Address Project

A planning session is scheduled for Monday June 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Chris will not be at the meeting, but is available to submit maps or satellite photos for inclusion in our video

9. Cell Tower in St. Patrick's Cemetery

Steve called Mass Historical about this project but has not received an answer. The Board of Appeals will reconvene the public hearing later in June. A petition to the Archdiocese is circulating through town.

10. Old Burying Ground

Joan distributed pictures of headstones taken in early afternoon sunlight and in light reflected from a mirror.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 8, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren (by phone), Marcia Wengen, Christopher Willard

Absent: Joanne DiMambro

Guest: Taryn Patrick, Wellman Associates

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

The minutes of June 2, 2008 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

In the treasurer's absence, Steve reported a \$385 balance. The members voted to pay a \$60 invoice for pens to be given out at Town Day.

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

- On Aug 12, the Mass Historical Commission reported a “no adverse effect” for the proposed Metro PCS cellular service atop the Dow Building. We have not had an opportunity to comment. The June 25, 2008 request letter from EBI Consulting was misplaced at the Historical Society and not opened until July 9. David Akerblom from EBI e-mailed Marcia Wengen on July 22, 2008 to await a new set of project plans.
- Ms. Taryn Patrick presented new zoning maps, photo simulations and fiberglass samples of faux chimney material. The cables will be inside the building rather than on the façade. She will clarify the placement of the guy wires, the condenser location and provide photo simulations of the west view.
- Chris suggested the use of trompe l’oeil to make the stealth chimney appear to have the same shape, design and mass as the existing chimneys. Taryn requested that the HC research this alternative.

4. Fire Station

- The floor repair project, begun on July 7, delayed by the masonry contractor and re-started on July 21, uncovered rusted rebar due to water penetration. This resulted in an August 2 change order that has a “not to exceed cost” of \$28,400.
- Bids for limited historic window replacement were opened on June 12, July 9 and August 6. On June 12 no one responded. Only one bid at \$22,900 for the front 6 windows was viable, but cannot be accepted because the window money must now be allocated as contingency for the masonry repair.

- The presence of lead in the existing cornice paint was confirmed by an independent laboratory at 23% by weight, “a very high concentration”. The Board of Health requested and was given a control plan for paint removal by the contractor that included on-site storage of paint chips in a 55 gallon drum and subsequent removal of same. Paint will be hand scraped. The painting contractor prepared a sample area that included the use of the rust arrestor the week of August 18. The architect approved the sample on August 26 and scraping began on August 27.
- The color scheme from the 1940’s will be Russian White on the galvanized metal trim and New England Green on the doors.

5. Web Site

No work was done on the web site over the summer.

6. House Plaque Program

- Margaret presented the revised procedure and application. Two changes were made: installation of the plaque is by the user; our web address was added.
- Steve thanked Margaret for her hard work over the summer to have this program ready for Town Day. Gamit Signs crafted a beautiful 12” x 16” sign for the Padilla Beard house that will be displayed at Town Day this coming Saturday.

7. Final Address Project

No work was done after our Monday June 9 planning meeting.

8. Old Burying Ground

Joan presented two CD’s of the 2007 OBG inventory + the 1858 inventory. Steve will take one copy to the next Historical Society meeting and the other copy will be given to the Library at the October 6th book presentation.

9. New Business

- Stoneham Access TV is offering an opportunity for local organizations to appear live on Thursday Sept 18 to promote their activities
- Joan owns a copy of a CD about Woburn Tanneries that won a 2008 Telly Award. It’s worth viewing for the quality of the production.

The meeting ended at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

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

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 3, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

- The minutes of October 6, 2008 were accepted.

1. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne reported an addition of \$56 from the October 26 OBG Open House added to the Donation Account bringing the balance to \$1,056.
- The operating account has a balance of \$325.
- The members approved payment of a \$15 invoice for the OBG Open House sign.

2. Fire Station

- The grant for \$125,000 was decreased by \$93,750 in Governor Patrick's recent budget cuts. The balance of \$31,250 remains. The architect is pricing two skylight covers.
- The apparatus floor repair developed hairline cracks in all three bays resulting in minor water leaks to the basement. The cracks have been repaired and no longer leak.
- The installation of six new doors was completed on October 24. The three bay doors in the front need trim pieces, weather stripping and painting.

3. Web Site

- Chris is rebuilding our web site and will include a link to the Historical Commission's new URL.
- The House Plaque application can be downloaded.
- Chris will include a link to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mashs/landmarks.html> which is a comprehensive list of Stoneham's National Register listing. The listing does not identify those properties that have been demolished.

4. Historic Plaque Program

- Publicity – the poster and applications will be at the HS Harvest Supper on Nov 13; subsequently they will move to the Public Library. The members discussed a letter to current owners of National Register houses with Gamit Signs being asked to pay the postage, a Chamber of Commerce article, a notice included in the January census mailing, picture and article in the local papers of a plaque installation, publicity about this as a great holiday gift.

- Municipal Buildings – current buildings are problematic as the Town has no funding. Former buildings like the Emerson School, which is now a condominium, might be interested in purchasing a sign.
 - Current applicants – Donna Weiss provided minimal information about construction date and ownership of 170 Franklin Street. Stevens' History mentions Thomas Green as an early owner of Franklin Street property. Also, this property is listed on the National Register under Elisha Wright rather than Elisha Knight. More research is needed to correct this error.
5. Dow Building Cell Antenna
- No visible construction yet.
6. Final Address Project & OBG
- An estimated 40 people took the self-guided OBG tour on Sunday Oct 26. Based on a visitor comment, signs need to be more specific; i.e., there was confusion about Rev. Cleaveland and his second wife documented at the first wife's headstone.
 - Events for an expanded open house next year could include: history bingo, a walking tour, trivial pursuit, a guided tour of the OBG maybe with costumed interpreters. Town Day would be an appropriate venue to promote events; we need to think about a rain date.
 - A memorial stone in the OBG for slaves and Native Americans might be funded by a grant or by an affluent tribe with casino connections. Joan suggested additional research of the Congregation Church records to confirm slave and Native American burials.
 - Joan's friend Denise would be willing to video the Final Addresses project. She may be able to video the Stoneham England collage for use in the project.
7. New Business
- The Goldfarb's at 10 Bow Street have offered us a tour of their house that dates to the early 1700's. They have a deed dating to 1686 transferring land to Andrew Phillips and his wife.
 - The measured mile project continues. The HC may want to consider historical signage for existing and demolished buildings (the Underground Railroad house on Main Street) as well as locations like meeting house ridge at the intersection of Pleasant and Summer Streets.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 1, 2008 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

- The minutes of November 3, 2008 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne reported a \$1,056 balance in the Donation Account and a \$325 balance in the Operating Account. Marcia is searching for the \$15 invoice for the OBG Open house sign.

3. Fire Station

- The apparatus bay doors were trimmed and weather stripped the weekend of Nov 23. We will need a day of "warm" weather for them to be painted.
- The architect has developed a painting punch list of seven items that need to be finished. Some of the work may not be complete until spring.
- David Ragucci, with agreement from Joe Rolli and Marcia Wengen, used \$3,000 of the \$31,250 for the purchase of custom windows for the kiosk that is a replica of the police box. A copy of the e-mails concerning this use of the money is attached to the November minutes.

4. Web Site

- Chris has been working on the web HC site.
- Marcia will add meeting minutes to the site.
- The link for Stoneham's National Register Listing did not print on the November minutes. It is <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mashs/landmarks.html>

5. Historic Plaque Program

- Publicity – the poster and applications are on display at the Library. We may want to think about having Stoneham TV re-run the segment about the house plaques. An article and picture of the first install of a plaque will be helpful. Can the local realtors be of any assistance? Would a packet of information in the Welcome Wagon kit make sense?
- Current applicants –3 applications have been received: 119 Franklin Street, 170 Franklin Street and 10 Waverly Street.
- 170 Franklin Street: we have a 1794 deed from Elisha Knight to Thomas Green that references dwellings including a barn.
- The members discussed plaques for municipal buildings. Cost is a concern. The Senior Center and the Fire Station already have plaques.

6. Elisha Knight Homestead
 - Marcia will write a letter to the Mass Historical Commission presenting the evidence that 170 Franklin Street is listed incorrectly as Elisha Wright on both the State and National Register of Historic Places.

7. Measured Mile
 - A Committee for Safe Routes for School Children has been working on safe and interesting walks for students in Stoneham. The Historical Society and Commission have been invited to join the endeavor by including in the walks information on Historical points of interest along the walk. Margaret will represent the HC at the upcoming meeting.
 - A virtual “museum without walls” is under construction in VT. It utilizes GPA and wi-fi mobile devices that allow the user to read a narrative and look at pictures while on a historical site. The members were not convinced that this project has application for Stoneham, especially since wi-fi is not available on the street.

8. Old Burying Ground/Final Addresses
 - No progress

9. Dow Building Cell Antenna
 - No visible construction yet.

10. Final Address Project & OBG
 - No progress

11. New Business
 - A schedule of events for 2009 was discussed. Marcia will draft a document.

The meeting ended at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 5, 2009 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

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

1. Meeting minutes

- The minutes of December 1, 2008 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne reported a \$1,056 balance in the Donation Account and a \$325 balance in the Operating Account. Marcia is searching for the \$15 invoice for the OBG Open house sign.

3. Fire Station

- No progress on the painting punch until spring.
- The Project Completion Report is underway. Submission of the Report no later than June 30, 2009 is required to receive the remaining \$38K+ of the \$200,000 July 2006 allocation. The revised MHC Form B was handed out. It is one of the requirements for the Report.
- The architect measured the two skylights and is preparing specifications. Funding for this project will be from the July 1, 2008 allocation.

4. Web Site

- Chris has reset the password for Marcia to add meeting minutes to our web site.

5. Historic Plaque Program

- Margaret placed an order with Gamit for three plaques: 119 Franklin St., 10 Waverly St., and 21 Collincote St.
- The Elisha Knight Homestead was traced to 1789 and then the trail went dead. Joan has discovered his father's name (Ebenezer) and Marcia will follow up on this lead.
- Steve noted that Carolyn Lassiter, owner of ReMax, may be interested in the program to provide a gift to her clients who purchase an older home.
- Steve will speak with Sharon Iovanni about including an application in the Chamber's welcome kit to new residents.
- Once the plaques are ready, the goal is to take a picture of the happy homeowners with their signs.

6. Old Burying Ground/Final Addresses

- Joan is learning video editing skills with her friend Denise, who made the Haunted Happenings video. Marcia noted that Denise did a good job as a

costumed interpreter explaining Jacob Gould's murder in that video. Marcia suggested that we consider giving her the script for our OBG project and having her narrate the stories of our founding fathers.

- A discussion of oral histories ensued. Joanne will speak with the Lister sisters about the possibility of filming their remembrances of living in Stoneham. The South School is investigating a Milken Grant opportunity for oral histories for the 2009-10 school year.
7. Dow Building Cell Antenna
- On December 2, 2008 David Akerblom e-mailed Marcia Wengen asking for a copy of the approval letter from the SHC meeting of October 6, 2008. He stated that Cheryl Noble has not responded to his requests. Marcia sent him a signed copy by US Mail.
8. Measured Mile
- Margaret reported on the Safe Routes for School Children meeting. A number of walks have been proposed in the Main Street and Spot Pond areas. The historical walk initiative is looking for volunteers. There is a meeting on the common tomorrow at 10 am to review the 1975 half mile walk from Elm to Maple Street.
 - Steve reported that the Town Administrator was interested a historical marker project. Steve felt it was important to place markers where maximum foot traffic occurs.
 - Chris and Margaret discussed geocaching, an outdoor treasure hunt game that utilizes GPS receivers to locate hidden treasure. Perhaps it could be adapted to our historical trail.
9. Annual Report
- Steve will work on the report. Marcia will send 2008 photos to be included in the booklet.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 2, 2009 - Meeting Minutes *
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

- The minutes of January 5, 2009 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne reported a \$310 balance in the Operating Account after receiving an invoice of \$15 for the OBG open house sign.

3. Fire Station

- A copy of the painting punch list was presented. Three of the four overhead doors were painted before the cold weather set in.
- The skylight replacement specs are finished, the project is under \$25,000 and will only require three quotations. The architect did list the project in the Central Register but there is no need for local newspaper advertising which would have cost \$240+/-.

4. Web Site

- Marcia reported problems loading the March 2008 minutes. Chris tried it and was successful.
- Chris presented a sample map of Historic Register houses by style. Marcia noted that the list is incomplete and four properties should be added and the demolition at 357 William Street removed making the total 65 properties.

5. Historical House Marker Program

- Margaret is waiting for the order with Gamit for three markers: 119 Franklin St., 10 Waverly St., and 21 Collincote St. The markers should be ready soon.
- The poster will be at the HC's "Research Your House" Day this Saturday.
- Steve did not have an answer from Sharon Iovanni about including the House Marker application in her welcome kit
- Depending on what the Chamber says, Margaret is willing to approach realtor Carolyn Lassiter about the markers.

6. Old Burying Ground/Final Addresses

- No progress.
- Joanne continues to encourage Helen Lister to participate in an oral history project. Joan knows that Corrine Barry's mother would be interested in participating.

7. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- The members were sent a copy of the MHC January 2, 2009 letter asking EBI to further explore antenna enclosures that are more stylistically compatible with the building. A discussion ensued and the members were polled resulting in the same 4-1 vote in favor of the 8' smokestack proposal. Joanne noted that she was not present at the October meeting but would have voted in favor of the smokestacks.
- Marcia will notify the members when the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting is rescheduled. She plans to attend the meeting, but as the dissenting vote, she asked that another member be present.

8. Measured Mile

- Margaret reported on the Safe Routes to School subcommittee's walk on January 6. She presented a draft of a proposed historical walk between Franklin Street and Pleasant Street with ten markers. Although alternatives were discussed, no changes were made. Margaret will present the draft at tomorrow's subcommittee meeting.
- Margaret stressed the need for family friendly signs in well trafficked areas.

9. Annual Report

- Steve presented his Annual Report. Minor date corrections were made.

10. New Business

- Steve noted that the Goodale house in Ipswich recently went on the market at \$1.3 million. It has both National Register Listing and a Preservation Restriction, much like the Warren Sweetser House.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

*on 8/18/2014: I changed today to February 2, 2009; originally dated January 5, 2009

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 10, 2009 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joan Quigley, Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen

Absent: Christopher Willard

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Meeting minutes

- The minutes of February 2, 2009 were accepted. **

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne reported a \$310 balance in the Operating Account.

3. Fire Station

- Skylight replacement project: 7 vendors submitted bids. Our architect determined that the lowest bidder was decertified from submitting bids and one of the two references was unsatisfactory. A letter will be send to the second lowest bidder.
- Two other requests for additional funds beyond the 1 million dollar bond are in the works. Both are for slightly less than 1 million. One is on the list of 'shovel ready" projects with the Lt. Governor and the other is with Congressman Markey.

4. Web Site

- No report.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret has delivered 10 Waverly Street. Two markers went back for date corrections: 119 Franklin and 21 Collincote. 12 Gerry Street is being worked on. 170 Franklin needs more research. 58 Lincoln Street is waiting a decision from owner. Pictures and web site agreements need to happen.
- Sharon lovanni has agreed to put the House Marker application in her welcome bag for new residents. 50 copies will be delivered tomorrow.
- Margaret reported that Carolyn Lassiter of Excelsior Realty Group is interested in presenting her clients with a marker if the house is 100 years old.

6. Old Burying Ground/Final Addresses

- No progress on script.
- Joan will ask her friend Denise about being a costumed interpreter for Anna Sprague at the OBG Open House in October.

7. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Members were mailed two proposals: one from EBi/Verizon asking for comments on two antennas by March 20 and one from EBI/MetroPCS with two faux chimneys as requested by the Zoning Board of Appeals at their February 19 Public Hearing,
- Those present voted 5-0 to send two letters. One to EBI/Verizon speaking against the cable tray attached to the outside of the building, asking them to conform to existing chimneys and requesting photo simulations of the Dow Block with the five potential faux chimneys. A second letter goes to the Zoning Board asking about the legal/technical limit of the number of antennas on a roof and for the Zoning Board to consider adopting a Town standard for fiberglass enclosures for all vendors to use.

8. Measured Mile/Historic Walk

- At a meeting on March 3, the subcommittee discussed a 6" bronze marker of Spot Pond encircled with 12 numbers representing the stops on the walk. The notion of embedding it in the sidewalk was discussed and agreed upon. After the meeting disbanded, a second proposal of a pole sign was considered. In a subsequent e-mail/phone call, the Safe Routes to School Coordinator was not amendable to postponing the casting so that the pole signs could be considered by the entire subcommittee.
- At a meeting on March 9, David Ragucci opined that the DPW could work on embedding 12 markers and a sign for each of the Town's Gateways could be funded with Chapter 90 (highway) money. The ribbon cutting for the Police Box is tentatively scheduled for Saturday May 16.

9. Annual Report

- Done and submitted. Two pictures were submitted: OBG Open House and Zachary Kline receiving the 2008 Heritage Award.

10. New Business

- The ad for the Heritage Award Nominations was submitted to both newspapers with a due date of April 1. We will vote at the April 6 meeting..

The meeting ended at 9:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

**On 8/18/2014 I changed date from February 2, 2008 to February 2, 2009 to fix typo

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 6, 2009 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of March 10, 2009 were accepted.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne reported a \$310 balance in the Operating Account.

3. Fire Station

- A spreadsheet for the Historic Registry grant shows balance of \$9,239 which Chief Rolli plans to use for replacing broken tile with narrow oak flooring on 2nd floor, restoring the original ceiling in kitchen and adding a door opener to the service bay facing Town Hall
- Skylight project is in process. Installation scheduled for June.
- Epoxy paint on threshold of apparatus bays did not wear will over the winter. Our preservation architect says we need to determine why before replying more epoxy paint.

4. Web Site

- The minutes are not up- to-date making the page appear unused.
- Chris will not reapply for membership but is willing to support the web page. He may be able to create a virtual tour/video flyover of the Historical Walk.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret noted that seven markers have been requested. Four are done: 21 Collincote St, 10 Waverly St, 119 Franklin Street and 12 Gerry St. Pending markers are for 170 Franklin St, 573 Main Street and 58 Lincoln Street.
- 170 Franklin, Weiss Farm, has been traced to 1749. Margaret noted that the Images of Stoneham book gives 1745 as a date.
- A request for 69 Washington Street has been made, but it's Marcia's understanding that the house has been sold and will be demolished. She will call the owner.

6. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Steve described a conference call he had with Mr. Juilano, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Mr. Solomon, Town Counsel. Given there was no letter from MHC, the Historical Commission voted last October for the faux flues/smokestacks as they were no overly intrusive. He noted that The Copley Group was presented our Heritage Award and the HC wanted to "cut them some slack."
- Steve expected that Mr. Solomon and a Verizon representative would be present at our meeting to discuss their interest in adding 3 antennas to the Dow Block. Neither party appeared.

- Marcia reported on the March 19 ZBA hearing. In answer to our March 12 letter to the ZBA, Mr. Juliano was unwilling to adopt faux chimneys as a town standard noting that three more chimneys on Dow may be inappropriate. The attorney for Metro/PCS noted there is no legal limit to the number of antennas and any technical problems are usually resolved by the engineering staffs of competing vendors.
- At the hearing, the attorney for Metro/PCS noted that MHC's position on replicating existing structures (in this case the 1864 chimneys) was not to mimic them exactly so the originals can be distinguished from the copies. In a subsequent e-mail Ryan Marciej noted that both approaches (exact duplicate or reasonable facsimile) are acceptable depending on the circumstances. "The antennas should not draw attention to themselves and should be, at most, only minimally visible." he stated.

7. Measured Mile/Historic Walk

- Steve noted that a draft of the Historical Walk flyer was shown at the Historical Society meeting and the Board members were quite impressed.
- Margaret noted the medallion locations have been marked although two sidewalks (OBG and Historical Society) will have spray painted medallions initially as they are not thick enough to accept the cast bronze.
- John Hanright has secured the free services of a printer for a thousand copies of the flyer. Maureen Buckley is working on another draft. Hilary Celentano expects the local businesses will stock the brochures.
- Hilary Celentano has requested new and/ repainted crosswalks, a blue line on the sidewalk to identify the Walk and 25 pole signs for the town's gateways and various other locations.

8. OBG

- The members voted to open the OBG on May 16, if the ribbon cutting for the Police Box is held that day.
- Joan reported the tree warden Jim Previte removed 2-3 diseased trees on March 17. He was very careful with a headstone that was leaning against one of the trees.

9. Heritage Award

- No nominations were received from the public. The members voted to give Chief Joe Rolli and the Stoneham Fire Department the award for 2009.

10. New Business

- Mary Todd will be asked to speak at the May 14 joint session of the HS and HC regarding the 150 anniversary of the Public Library.
- Steve asked the members to consider what wording would be appropriate for a marker in the OBG memorializing Natives Americans and slaves.
- Paul Foley is interested in becoming a member. Marcia sent in her request for re-appointment.

The meeting ended at 8:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
 Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 5, 2009 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joan Quigley, Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Reorganization

- Marcia Wengen and Paul Foley were appointed to 3 year terms by the Selectmen. Mr. Foley notified the Town Clerk's office that he could not attend tonight's meeting. The officers for 2009-10 are Stephen Rotondi – Chairman, Margaret Warren – Vice Chairman, Joan Quigley – Treasurer, Marcia Wengen – Secretary. There is one vacant seat.

2. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of April 6, 2009 were amended (item 3, bullet point 3 “well” for “will”).

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joanne was delayed. Steve reported a \$310 balance in the Operating Account. Estimated expenses include \$80 for the Heritage Award, \$55 for a marker as a gift to the Library, \$10 for an OBG Open sign leaving a balance for books of approximately \$165. Marcia recommended that we buy a copy of Stevens' History of Stoneham that could circulate. The two copies held by Stoneham and one by Lynnfield can only be used in their respective libraries. Joan will research book purchases. Margaret will speak with Mary Todd about a marker.

4. Fire Station

- The painting punch list is outstanding and is expected to be completed this month. Skylight project is in process. Installation scheduled for June.

5. Web Site

- Chris continues to support the web page. The members looked at his sample virtual tour that can be updated once the Walking Tour is finalized. Marcia has asked if text and/or audio can be added, but Chris has not replied.

6. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- The Zoning Board of Appeals met on April 23, 2009.
- Marcia passed around a copy of the color photo presented by the Metro/PCS attorney of a faux chimney installed at 16-22 Harvard Ave in Medford which demonstrates the corner joinery that looks real. The attorney also brought 3 samples of the fiberglass brick panels for the Board members to view.

- The motion to approve the Metro/PCS request was lengthy and contingent on MHC approval (which is overdue) and was approved 5-0. Michael Dufour was appointed liaison between the ZBA and Metro/PCS to be sure the work is done as specified. A letter will be prepared by Mr. Juliano reciting the motion and signed at or before their May meeting.
- Mr. Juliano asked if the Historical Society (he meant Historical Commission) should be mentioned in the motion and Marcia said no. She explained that the HC makes a recommendation to the Mass Historical Commission who then issues the “adverse/no adverse effect” letter.
- Cathy Rooney in the ZBA office at Town Hall told Marcia that Verizon requested an abutter’s list for the Dow Building. It appears they are moving forward with their project for telecommunications gear on that roof.

7. Preservation Month

- The Heritage Award ceremony for Joe Rolli and the Fire Fighters will be at the selectmen’s meeting on May 19 at 7:00 p.m.
- Marcia noted that she ordered 2 citations, one for Chief Rolli and one for the Fire Fighters.
- Mary Todd has agreed to speak about our 150-year-old library at the joint meeting of the Historical Society and the Commission on May 14. If the announcements do not appear in the local papers this week, Marcia will contact Bee Russo, publicist for the Society.
- The OBG will be open from 10-1 on Saturday May 30 unless that date is changed at the May 14 meeting with the Town Administrator.; Joan described her chance meeting with a Stoneham resident who is a Civil War interpreter. She will follow-up to see if he might be interested in attending our October Open House for the OBG.
- Joan agreed to research the minister’s records at the Congregational Church for mention of slave and Native American burials in the OBG.
- The Harvard MA Historical Society notified Marcia that I.N. Stone was indeed a “monument carver” in Harvard, a town with significant slate quarries. His full name was Isaac Newton Stone. He signed the Ann Cleaves and Infant headstone in the OBG.

8. Measured Mile/Historic Walk

- Margaret reported that the History Walk subcommittee continues to meet regularly to prepare the brochure and markers. Because of the medallion design, the walk now requires exactly 12 sites and has had to expand from a one-mile walk with 10 sites to a considerably longer walk.
- Margaret reported Mary Marchant has only seen the sections that Linda Secondini and Donna Weiss researched. The bronze medallions and the gateway signs are being worked on.
- Marcia noted she had been contacted by Sharon Iovanni concerning the availability of the Walking Tour flyers on July 16 for an event on the Common. She is planning a historic walk and cook-out as a “Business After Hours” event. Sharon is willing to make copies but they will not be in color.

9. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret noted that nine markers have been requested. Five are done. Four are pending research: 170 Franklin St, 573 Main Street, 69 Washington Street, 40 Wright Street.
- Joan will ask the Collincote Street folks about a picture of their sign.
- Marcia reported that 69 Washington Street will soon be on the market again, this time as a two-family house. The owner has provided some basic information that Joan was able to substantiate.

10. New Business

- Research Fees. Steve reported that the Historical Society Board will be enforcing the research fees because of the cost involved in opening the building. Until September 1, the Historical Commission will not be charged for research. After that date the Commission will be charged at the member rate. The application is being re-written to state that non-members will pay \$20 and HS members will be charged \$5/hour up to 2 hours.
- Marcia requested that we discuss this at the next meeting, especially if the payment will come from our budget.

The meeting ended at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 1, 2009- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m.

1. Reorganization

- Margaret chaired the meeting until Steve's arrival at 7:50. She welcomed Paul Foley.

2. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of May 5, 2009 were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported \$87.99 in expenses for the Heritage Award and the OBG Open sign plus \$55 for a marker for the Library leaving a balance of \$167.01.
- A PO has been created to encumber the \$55 in case of a late invoice.
- Her selection of books was reviewed by the members and totals \$154.80. Marcia will order.

4. Fire Station

- The Project Report is almost finished. A discrepancy with 2 invoices was discovered this morning and is being addressed. The skylight installation is due this month but Marcia does not know the date.

5. Web Site

- Chris continues to support the web page. Marcia read his e-mail regarding the virtual walking tour. He can add some text over any picture by editing it before it goes into video. After the video is created he will explore the possibility of adding audio.

6. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Marcia distributed a copy of the ZBA decision regarding Metro/PCS. There is still no approval from Mass Historical Commission. Steve asked Marcia to contact Ryan Marciej for an update. Joan pointed out that the height of the taller chimneys may be more in keeping with those on the Chase building.
- Marcia noted there is no new information about Verizon's telecommunications proposal for the Dow Building.

7. Measured Mile/Historic Walk

- Margaret reported that the Library has been added to the Walking Tour at Mary Todd's request but the re-location of medallions #11 and #12 has not been finalized. The "Yellow Peril" trolley section will be deleted.
- Joanne is available on June 13 to hand out Walking Tour flyers. She and Joan will attend Zack Kline's Eagle Scout Court of Honor.
- There is a meeting tomorrow, June 2, with David Ragucci to discuss details of the Police Box Dedication/Historic Walking Tour.

8. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret noted that the *Independent* ran a photo of the Nelson's, owners of 21 Collincote Street along with an article about the House Marker program. The SUN ran an abbreviated article but no picture of the 119 Franklin Street sign and owner. Margaret will request the picture be run.
- Three markers are on order: 58 Lincoln Street, the Public Library and a second sign for 119 Franklin Street's back door. Five markers are being researched: 170 Franklin, 40 Wright Street, 69 Washington Street, 573 Main Street, 4 Gerry Street.

9. Research Fees

- Steve reported that \$5 is for up to 2 hours of research for members. Unused time may not be carried over. There is no category for a business or organization so the Historical Commission cannot belong as a member.
- Steve will ask the HS Board if Historical Commission members can get the \$5 rate after September 1st as long as the Historical Commission has at least one member who pays for a Society membership.
- Marcia asked the question about who would pay the \$5; i.e. the researcher or the Historical Commission from the annual budget of \$385. No conclusion was reached. The members discussed the possibility of charging the owner an extra \$5 or \$10 to cover the HS research fee.

10. New Business

- Marcia distributed the schedule beginning in September.
- Town Day is September 12th. Exhibits will include the House Marker program, Walking Tour Flyers and an advertisement for OBG Open House on Sunday October 25. Joan will investigate the availability and cost, if any, of costumed interpreters for the October event. Bob Shannon is the name of the Civil War actor.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 8, 2009- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Paul Foley, Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen.

Present by phone: Margaret Warren

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of June 1, 2009 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported \$3.00+/- in our operating budget for year ended June 30, 2009. We have \$385 for this fiscal year. The donations from the OBG on June 13 totaled \$31 bringing the donation account to \$1, 087.
- The selection of books will be donated to the Library at next month's meeting.

3. Fire Station

- The Project Completion Report was submitted to MHC on June 9. The \$38,669 balance on the \$200,000 was received by the Town on Aug 24. The skylight and hardwood floor projects are done. There is a small balance from the Tourism Grant of \$31,250, which will be needed to replace a portion of the new floor damaged by an A/C leak. Marcia will check about insurance to cover the damage.

4. Web Site

- Nothing has been updated on our web site. Marcia will talk to Chris Willard.
- Margaret created an e-mail address for us: stonehamhistoricalcommission@gmail.com. She checks it periodically.

5. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Members received by US mail the September 1st documents from EBI regarding the three Verizon cell towers on the Dow Building. This letter is a follow-up to an April 7 letter in which Ms. Farley respectfully refused to provide photo simulations of both the MetroPCS and Verizon chimneys.
- Members review the new simulations that include the chimneys of both vendors and noted that the placement of the Verizon chimneys is not symmetrical due to the space constraints on the Dow Block roof. A letter will be sent to Ms. Farley requesting that EBI engage the company who manufactured the faux chimney at 16-22 Harvard in Medford for all five chimneys (two already approved and three awaiting approval).

6. Historic House Marker Program

- Seven markers are researched and carved; of these, only the Library marker and Padilla Beard are not installed. The owner of 119 Franklin requested and received a second marker for the back door. Thirteen are in various stages of research.
- Members agree that the owner of 40 Wright Street could have three names on her marker.
- Members did not approve an \$80 purchase of a DVD of Grantor (seller) Indices from 1896-1973 on the theory that they do not go back far enough in time.
- Members voted 5-0 to pay expenses incurred in researching house markers including Historical Commission research fees and parking fees from the annual operating budget.

7. Town Day

- The Historical Commission is in space #90 on Saturday Sept 12. Set-up crew will meet at 8 am. Coverage is needed from 11 am to 4 pm.

8. Burial Gound Open House

- The OBG will be open, weather permitting, on Sunday Oct 25 from 10 am to 2 pm. Joan will confirm with Bob Shannon and Denise Lawrence that they are again interested in being costumed interpreters.

9. Historic Walk

- There are no walking tour flyers in the Police Box. Marcia has a small supply from the last OBG Open house and is planning to display them at Town Day.. Joan will speak with David Gardner about the cost to print another set of flyers.

The meeting ended at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 5, 2009- Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Book Presentation

- Mary Todd, Public Library Director, was most appreciative of the history and preservation books presented by the Commission

2. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of September 8, 2009 were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported no change in account balances: \$385 for operating; \$1,087 .for the donation account.

4. Fire Station

- Marcia read an e-mail from Joe Rolli noting that the insurance money was used to repair the water damage on the 2nd floor and put hardwood floors in three other rooms because the firemen were able to do the work themselves.

5. Web Site

- The Town's web page now supports the Historical Commission site. Marcia spoke with Chris Willard ~ he will forward our existing page to the Town's site. He may be able to develop the video walking tour and link it to the Town's web site. Paul Foley offered his help if Marcia cannot convert the meeting minutes to PDF files.
- Steve noted the walking tour is on the Historical Society's web page. Margaret placed photocopies of the brochure at the Library and in the police box. There are two Girl Scout troops interested in taking the tour.
- Margaret noted the "Googling" the Stoneham Historical Commission does not present our Town web page at the top of the list. Marcia will research.

6. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Steve signed a letter to EBI/Verizon requesting that EBI engage the company who manufactured the faux chimney at 16-22 Harvard in Medford for all five chimneys (two already approved for Metro/PCS and three proposed). No response was received.
- No obvious work has on the Dow Block roof by Metro/PCS.
- Marcia reported that Cathy Rooney in the ZBA office received an information request from T Mobile. Marcia questioned where more telecommunications gear would go on an already crowded rooftop.

7. Historic House Marker Program

- Seven markers are researched and carved; of these, only the Library marker and Padilla Beard are not installed. No additional research has been done on the remaining dozen or so requests. Marcia suggested that she meet with Joan and Margaret to review progress, especially the three houses that are problematic.

8. Burial Ground Open House

- The OBG will be open from 2-4 pm on the Sunday before Halloween, weather permitting. Denise Lawrence and Bob Shannon, our costumed interpreters, are expected to be there.
- Steve suggested Marcia put a notice about the Open House in the newspapers.

9. Mass Highway Lighting Project

- No response is needed to the Sept 21, 2009 letter from FST Engineers, Burlington, MA for phase 2 of the Route I-93 Lighting from Reading to Medford.

10. Other business

- Even though *Town Day* was rescheduled to Sunday Sept 20 at 1 pm, the event was well attended and our booth generated much interest.
- The *historical walk brochures* continue to be problematic as there is no financial source to print more copies. Consideration is being given to applying to SBCEF for a grant.
- Margaret noted the Library will be applying for the *Mass Memories Road Show*, a one day opportunity for Stoneham residents to share their history and memories as part of a state wide digital history project. Steve requested more information before committing the Historical Commission to the project.
- The Historical Society will present an appraisal night on October 13 from 6:45 pm to 9 pm. Items are \$10 each or 3 for \$25.

The meeting ended at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 2, 2009 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of October 5, 2009 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported \$385 in the operating account and \$18 in donations from the October 25 OBG open house for a total of \$1,105 in the donation account.

3. Fire Station

- Nothing to report; time to take this off the agenda.

4. Web Site

- The Town's web page now supports the Historical Commission site. Marcia spoke with Chris Willard; he forwarded the existing pages to the Town site. He noted that the more people access our Town web page, the higher it will appear on a Google request.
- Our schedule of meetings needs to be added to the web page.

5. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Nothing to report.

6. Historic House Marker Program

- Seven markers are researched and, of these, 170 Franklin Street, Pine Street Credit Union/Train Depot and 96 Hancock are ready to be ordered. 72 Elm needs e-mail confirmation from the owner. Three need research in the HS tax books: 7 Ledge Street (formerly Maple Court), 4 Gerry Street and 11 Benton
- Five need more research: 63 Elm, 49 Bow, 40 Wright, 69 Washington St, 86 Pleasant St. The owner of 86 Pleasant Street thinks his house is the Charles Gill House but the National Register has it as 76 Pleasant St. The owner, Robert Columbus has not responded to e-mail or letter.
- Before tonight's meeting, Margaret, Joan and Marcia reviewed the research on 142 Pond Street. Dating the house is problematic because the 72.5 acres included a dwelling, barn and other buildings when Jesse Green sold it in 1840. Another approach may be to research 140 Pond to determine if the current owner's statement is true that the owners of #142 built #140. The Assessor's data base notes that #140 is older than #142.

7. Burial Ground Open House

- The OBG was open from 2-4 pm on the Sunday Oct 25. The weather was sunny and mild. 47 people visited the property. Denise Lawrence and Bob Shannon, our costumed interpreters, were present.
- We would consider opening the property in the late spring/early summer if there was a trigger event, like the police box/historical walk dedication, to bring people out
- Veteran's names appeared on a plaque in the OBG, but it did not survive the ravages of time and weather.

8. New Business

- Steve noted that the Historical Society is considering the use of Facebook to market itself in addition to the more traditional web page. He asked if the Commission should do the same. After lengthy discussion the members agreed to reconsider it after the web page was current and depending on the success of the Historical Society.
- Maureen Saltzman, Research Librarian, joined the meeting to discuss the Mass Memories Roadshow. She needs three sponsor letters for the grant to bring this state wide digital history project to Stoneham. If the funding for this UMass Boston project disappears, NOBLE may be able to provide the technical help to move forward with the project. Maureen plans to reach out to other Stoneham organizations if/when funding is in place so that more volunteers will be available. Steve signed a letter on behalf of the Commission to partner with the Library for this project.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 7, 2009 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Paul Foley, David LeBlanc, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

Absent: Joanne DiMambro

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. Steve welcomed new member David LeBlanc. His term expires April 30, 2010.

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of November 2, 2009 were approved with a correction in item 8, line 2: "He asked **is** the Commission..." changed to "He asked **if** ..."

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported \$385 in the operating account and \$1,105 in the donation account. Marcia estimated her receipts at less than \$100.

3. Web Site

- Maureen Buckley forgot to send the pictures from the walking tour flyer to Chris Willard. She now has his email address.
- No progress on the Town web page, so Marcia can research houses for the marker program.

4. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- Nothing to report. Steve reviewed the history of Metro/PCS, Verizon and T Mobile requests for David LeBlanc.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Joan, Margaret and Steve research Historical Society tax books last week for 7 Ledge, 3 Harrison, 11 Benton and 4 Gerry. Owner approval is needed.
- Joan researched 5 Grant to a circa 1923 date.
- Margaret submitted the following 5 requests to Gamit: 170 Franklin (Weiss Farm), Pine (Credit Union/Train Depot), 96 Hancock, 72 Elm and 40 Wright.
- Four need more research: 573 Main, 63 Elm, 49 Bow, and 69 Washington St. The owner of 86 Pleasant St. has not responded to e-mail or letter about 76 Pleasant St. being listed as the Charles Gill House.

6. Burial Ground

- Steve reviewed the project called "Final Addresses" involving research of notables buried in the OBG and subsequent filming for local cable. No progress has been made since the scripts were inadvertently shredded.
- Some thought has been given to a memorial stone for the unmarked graves of slaves and Native Americans.

7. Old Business

- Steve reported a Facebook shell is under construction for the Historical Society.
- No information is available regarding Donna Weiss's grant application to SBCEF for reprints of the Historical Walking Tour flyer.
- UMass Boston has not been notified about funding for the Mass Memories Road Show; NOBLE is offering to assist Librarian Maureen Saltzman if the funding does not materialize.
- Steve reviewed the Heritage Award program for David LeBlanc.

8. New Business

- A framed 1906 map of Stoneham is now in the Stoneham Room.
- The 1904 marker is hanging over the corridor to the Children's Library,

The meeting ended at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 4, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Paul Foley, Joanne DiMambro, David LeBlanc, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of December 7, 2009 were approved.
- Steve asked Maureen Saltzman about the Mass Memories Road Show. To date, UMass Boston has not been notified about funding for the Mass Memories Road Show; should the funding not materialize, Maureen indicated that NOBLE is still willing to assist with the project.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported \$385 less expenses of \$85.37 leaves a balance of \$299.63 in the operating account and \$1,105 in the donation account. A level funded budget of \$385 for 2011 was e-mailed to the Town Administrator in mid-December.

3. Web Site

- Marcia will check with Maureen Buckley about the historical walking tour pictures for Chris Willard.
- No progress on the Town web page, so Marcia can research houses for the marker program.

4. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- A December 16 letter from Mass Historical Commission regarding the proposed Verizon Wireless cell antenna was reviewed. A copy of the letter was delivered to the Zoning Board of Appeals office, as they were not copied on the letter.
- No progress on the Metro/PCS cell antenna project on the Dow Block.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret report 12 marker requests were submitted to Gamit Signs. Four markers were delivered before Christmas. 96 Hancock Street was returned with a typographical error. 23 markers in total.
- Four need more research: 573 Main, 63 Elm, 49 Bow, and 69 Washington St. The owner of 86 Pleasant St. has not responded to e-mail or letter about 76 Pleasant St. being listed as the Charles Gill House.

6. Annual Report

- Items mentioned for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report included our book presentation to Mary Todd, completion of the Fire Station renovations, two OBG openings with costumed interpreters, the walking tour and Town Day.
7. Heritage Award
- A request for nominations will be submitted to the newspapers in March in time for a decision at our April Meeting. One possibility might be the Class of '82 Beautification program for their project to replicate the police box.
8. Walking Tour Brochures
- Donna Weiss' grant application to SBCEF for reprinting the flyer was rejected.
 - Additional quotes, perhaps from the Vocational School or other printers in Stoneham, would provide information for making a decision about splitting the cost between the Commission and the Society.
9. Stoneham Access TV
- Access TV occupies the former Unitarian Church which is listed on the National Register. Although windows on the west and south side are being replaced with modern windows to prevent heat loss, it was determined that delisting the building was not appropriate. We may want to consider a program to educate owners about cosmetic modifications.
 - A discussion followed about there being no political appetite for a demo delay bylaw. Steve explained the demo permit has a Historical Commission sign off, but technically the Commission has no clout to delay a demolition.
10. Burial Ground
- Joan will continue her research on slave and Native American burials.
11. Publicity
- Newspaper articles about the house markers would be interesting, especially if information was included about what was happening in the town/state/nation in that year.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 1, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

Absent: David LeBlanc

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of January 4, 2010 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$299.63 in the operating account and \$1,105 in the donation account.

3. Web Site

- Marcia reported that Maureen Buckley sent the historical walking tour pictures to Chris Willard.
- No progress on the Town web page, so Marcia can research houses for the marker program.

4. Dow Building Cell Antenna

- No progress on the Metro/PCS cell antenna project on the Dow Block.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret reported 8 sign requests are with Gamit. Peter Wright needs to replace his \$55 check as that account is closed. Marcia notified the owners of 49 Bow and 69 Washington St. of their options. 49 Bow St. owner made a decision; the 69 Washington St. owner lives in NH and has not been heard from.
- Two need more research: 573 Main, 63 Elm. The owner of 86 Pleasant St. has not responded to e-mail or a letter about 76 Pleasant St. being listed as the Charles Gill House.

6. Walking Tour Brochures

- Margaret has three quotes from local printers:

Printing Company	1000 B&W copies	5000 B&W copies
Staples	\$175	\$770
Sterling	\$240	\$695
Economy	\$110	\$320

- As for making a decision about splitting the cost between the Commission and the Society, Steve doubted that any money would come from the Historical Society.

7. Annual Report

- Steve reported that he submitted the Commission's Annual Report. Margaret and Joan will send him pictures of Franklin St. and Collincote St. house markers for possible inclusion. Marcia will send Heritage Award and book presentation photos.

8. Burial Ground

- Joan will continue her research on slave and Native American burials. She noted the recent Boston Globe article about John Winthrop, the first governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, kept American Indians as slaves and helped to write the first law in the US officially sanctioning the practice of keeping African slaves.
- Steve supports a memorial stone to identify early, unmarked Indian and slave graves and to raise awareness about the OBG.
- Steve questioned the availability of cemetery money that might be used for restoration of the OBG.

9. Mass Memories Road Show

- Steve announced that UMASS Boston has received funding for this project that documents Massachusetts history through family photographs and stories. Maureen Saltzman is moving forward with her grant application.

10. New Business

- MWRA Project
 - ~The members reviewed the packet of information from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) regarding the project to construct a new underground concrete water storage facility within the previously disturbed area east of the former Boston Regional Medical Center hospital site.
 - ~The enclosed map does not identify the three archaeological sites (Spot Pond I, II, III) where a pre-Columbian charcoal pit was found. Steve noted this was not well publicized to keep curiosity seekers away.
 - ~Although the map does not identify Haywardville as such, it does appear to be outside the impact area of the project.
- Terms expire for three members on April 30th – Steve, Margaret, David.
- Marcia will add the Heritage Award nomination process to the web page.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 1, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: David LeBlanc, Paul Foley, Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of February 1, 2010 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$299.63 in the operating account and \$1,105 in the donation account.

3. Web Site

- Marcia reported that 3 new pages have been added to the website: a list of house markers, the 2009 Heritage Award winners and a request for nomination for the Heritage Award for 2010.
- Steve asked if a thumbnail of each marker could appear next to each name. Marcia will investigate.

4. Cell Towers

- No progress on the Metro/PCS cell antenna project on the Dow Block.
- EBI in Burlington sent a request dated February 8th for comment on the proposed project to replace 3 existing antennas and enclose them within a stealth chimney at 7 Stonehill Drive. The Caleb Wiley House at 125 North Street is not within sight of the project. Steve remembered the yellow house on the west side on Main Street that was reportedly a hospital, but it is not listed on either the State or National Registers.
- Marcia will write a "no objection" letter.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Margaret reported 8 sign deliveries. Marcia reported 3 outstanding requests. 69 Washington Street is awaiting a decision and check from the owner who now lives in NH. 573 Main Street and 63 Elm Street need more work. The owner of 86 Pleasant St. has not responded to e-mail or a letter about 76 Pleasant St. being listed as the Charles Gill House.

6. Walking Tour Brochures

- Margaret reported that the Vocational School is looking for projects and would charge \$250 for 5,000 copies of the walking tour flyer. She applied to the Stoneham Bank for full funding. They meet in March. If the funding is approved, she will keep the kiosk stocked and make copies available at the Historical Society and the Public Library.
- Margaret reported that the Girl Scouts are editing a video about the Walking Tour at Stoneham Access TV.

7. MWRA Letter

- No additional information was received regarding the Mass Water Resources Authority project to construct a new underground concrete water storage facility within the previously disturbed area east of the former Boston Regional Medical Center hospital site.

8. Burial Ground

- Joan is continuing her research at the First Congregational Church on slave and Native American burials.
- Marcia reported preliminary discussions with the town Administrator about the use of perpetual care funds for preservation of the Old Burying Ground. David Ragucci wants to take a tour of the OBG when the weather improves. He might consider a compromise of hiring a professional stone conservator to supervise a team from DPW to work on the resetting, cleaning and repairing of headstones.
- Marcia will investigate grant funding.

9. Mass Memories Road Show

- Steve announced that the Public Library's grant was approved to sponsor a Road Show on a Saturday in October. Heather Cole from UMASS will offer an orientation program in the spring to explain the details of this state wide digital history project. The HC will need to send a representative to that meeting.

10. New Business

- Preservation Survey Grant
 - ~Steve submitted a letter as a private citizen in support of a grant that Mary Todd is seeking for a preservation survey to determine how the Library's fragile and important documents might be preserved. The deadline of the grant application did not allow for consultation with the Commission members.
- Demolition Notification
 - ~The proposed demolition of the circa 1900 two family house at 19-21 Montvale Ave was approved at the Selectmen's meeting of Feb 16. Marcia noted that both Reading and Wilmington have demolition notification bylaws that require the building inspector to notify the Historical Commission when a demolition permit is pulled. This provides time for the HC to determine if a building should have photos and/or measured drawings. Marcia will research how many permits are pulled annually.
 - ~ Joan noted that her search of census records did not find any important residents at this address.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 5, 2010 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

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

Absent: David LeBlanc

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of March 1, 2010 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$299.63 in the operating account and \$1,105 in the donation account.

3. Web Site

- Marcia reported that the thumbnail pix for each house marker needs more research.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- Members voted unanimously to create a marker for the 1916 Fire & Police Station. Penn Varney, Architect will be listed if there is space. The builder's name, F. C. Alexander of Winchester, will not be on the marker because of space.
- Margaret will submit markers for the Fire Station and 49 Bow Street together.
- There are no new requests. Marcia continues to research three outstanding requests.

5. Walking Tour Brochures

- Margaret reported that Stoneham Bank will fund the printing of 5,000 Walking Tour brochures. She is editing the June 2009 version to acknowledge the bank and will soon deliver a CD to the Vocational School for printing.

6. Burial Ground

- Joan is continuing her research at the First Congregational Church on slave and Native American burials. The minister's records to 1800 reveal no significant information about the deaths and burials of slaves. There is mention of slave births and blacks who were church members. Joan will continue to read the early 1800 records.
- Marcia reported on the Mass Historical Commission Round 16 grant workshop she attended on March 11. Stoneham cannot qualify for a pre-development project to prepare a cemetery preservation plan because the town lacks matching money and it is too late to submit a warrant article to vote on a preservation restriction at May's Town Meeting.
- Members voted unanimously to submit a warrant article to the Selectmen for the next Town Meeting, presumably in October. The article will read: **To see**

if the Town of Stoneham will grant a preservation restriction to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by and through the Massachusetts Historical Commission (the "MHC"), in perpetuity, by which the Town will covenant to maintain the Old Burying Ground located on Pleasant Street in a manner satisfactory to the MHC and not alter the property unless the MHC determines that the alteration will not impair the characteristics which contribute to the historical integrity of this property listed on the National Register of Historical Places on April 13, 1984.

***Stoneham Historical Commission
Stephen E. Rotondi, Chairman***

- Marcia will prepare a list of pros and cons for Town Meeting.
7. Heritage Award
- Only one nomination was received. Although Maureen Buckley nominated Marcia Wengen, it was determined that active Commission members should not receive the award because doing so gives the appearance of a conflict of interest.
 - The award will be presented to the SHS Class of '82 Beautification Fund for their efforts to replace the police box that was an icon in Central Square for so many years. Chris Oneschuk will be contacted.
8. Preservation Month
- May is Preservation Month and the theme this year is :”Old is the New Green” highlighting the notion that preservation is inherently green and that it is possible to rehab old houses in a way that balances green principles with the historical integrity of the original structures.
 - Steve requested names of individuals who might be asked to speak at the joint meeting of the Commission and the Society.
 - Marcia and Joanne are considering a guided tour in May following the Walking Tour map.
9. New Business
- Steve demonstrated an electronic version of our 1981 Stoneham, Massachusetts: A Shoe Town book created by Marina Memmo. Before a decision is made regarding the sale of CD as a fund raising project, Town counsel will be consulted about our copyright and if proceeds must be returned to the town.
 - Marcia will send a “no adverse effect” letter regarding the proposed roadway improvements and pedestrian safety measures to improve the walking and bicycling routes to Central Elementary.

The meeting ended at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 7, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

1. The minutes of May 4, 2010 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$112.63 in the operating account after payment of Heritage Award, Registry of Deeds parking and markers for Town Hall and the Fire Station. There is \$1,105 in the donation account.

•

3. Web Site

- Marcia plans to update the page with the Heritage Award for 2010 and explore the possibility of thumbnails of the house markers.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- Steve will arrange for the Town Hall and Fire Station markers to be presented at a future Selectmen's Meeting.
- There are no new applications. Marcia continues to research three outstanding requests.
- Joan spoke with the owners of the first Town House and Silas Dean's house. Both seem interested in a marker.

5. Walking Tour Brochures

- Margaret expects the brochure to be printed next week; 5,000 copies for \$250 paid for by the Stoneham Bank.

•

6. Burial Ground

- Joan has made no progress on her research at the First Congregational Church. She asked if the Historical Society had family bibles she might research. Steve knew of only the bible from the 1500's.
- Joan continues to research the death of Timothy Wheeler in 1837 during a meeting at the first Town House.
- Stoneham has three Congressional Medal of Honor recipients buried in Stoneham, but only one is a Stoneham native.

7. Stoneham, MA: A Shoe Town on CD

- Steve has had no response from Attorney Solomon regarding our copyright and if any proceeds for proposed CD sales must be returned to the town. Steve will e-mail Town Counsel again.

8. Mass Memories Road Show

- Steve provided an overview of the recent meeting with Heather Cole from UMASS Boston. The Historical Society is expected to provide a booth at the show. The Memories Road Show will produce the brochure on the History of Stoneham. The two other sponsors of the program schedule for Oct 16 from 10-3 pm, the Historical Commission and the Council on Aging, are expected to participate with a booth. The success of this project hinges on outreach to the community.

9. Fire Station

Marcia noted that Joe Rolli met with Michael Woronka of Action Ambulance about the renovation of second floor sleeping quarters in the fire station. Joe explained the requirements not to remove or modify woodwork on the doors, walls, windows and staircase. Mike is reconsidering his initial interest in replacing the plaster walls. Joe will schedule another meeting once Mike locates a contractor for the project.

10. Meeting Schedule

- The schedule for our meetings beginning in September was accepted as written except for the January meeting. The celebration of the holiday needs to be clarified.

•

11. Town Day

- Our exhibit will include Road Show information, the house marker program, the historic walking tour and possibly a poster about the “fence-no fence” controversy of the OBG.

12. Book Purchases

- The members agreed to spend our remaining funds on books and promotional items for Town Day. A motion was approved to give Marcia some discretion on how many books to purchase depending on the cost of the promotional material. Plastic bags were suggested to advertise the Commission.

The meeting ended at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 4, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of June 7, 2010 were approved with a spelling correction in item 4 – “first” not “fist”. No meetings were scheduled for July and August. The September 7th meeting was not convened due to lack of a quorum.

2. Treasurer’s Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$3.90 in the operating account for FY '10 after payment for the books and wallet calendars. There is \$1,105 in the donation account and \$385 in the operating account for FY '11. Marcia will submit an invoice of less than \$20 for the OBG Open House sign.

3. Web Site

- No progress was made over the summer on adding the 2010 Heritage Award or the thumbnails of the house markers.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- At Town Day, Joan spoke with the owner of 140 Pond Street who may be interested in a marker.
- The Goldfarb’s requested a marker c.1709 for their 10 Bow Street home. Marcia is reviewing the documentation that was submitted.
- The owners of the first Town House are interested in replacing their historical sign that details the moving of the building across Gould’s Meadow. Margaret will research options with Gamit. This would be in addition to having one of our markers.
- Mr. Moss asked that his check for \$55 be destroyed since it is at least a year old. He will replace it when the research on his house is completed. Marcia noted the lot lines on his property continually change and/or there is no reference to a house. Joan questioned how the date on the Tay house was established.
- Marcia will send Margaret information on George Cloutman that she found earlier today in the 1872 tax book in the Library. A definitive date can be established by deed research in Cambridge of this 8 Gerry Street address.
- There are no new applications.

5. Walking Tour Brochures

- Margaret reported that Stoneham Bank was thanked in writing for their payment of \$250 to the Vocational School for 5,000 Historical Walking Tour brochures. Margaret keeps the police box stocked with brochures.

6. Burial Ground

- In preparation for the OBG Open House on October 24, Marcia will inquire of DPW if the temporary water hose will be removed before that date. It supplies Pine Street residents during the water main replacement project. Joan and Joanne will meet Marcia about an hour early to setup for the event.
- Stoneham's Rotary Club asked Steve about finding a speaker for their October 26 meeting. Marcia agreed to talk about the Old Burying Ground.
- Joan noted that the Wakefield Historical Society will present a guided tour of their burying ground on Friday Oct 29 at 5:15pm.

7. Stoneham, MA: A Shoe Town on CD

- Steve has had no response from Attorney Solomon regarding our copyright and if any proceeds for proposed CD sales must be returned to the town. Steve will e-mail Town Counsel again.

8. Mass Memories Road Show

- Maureen Saltzman presented the series of public service announcements that were created featuring the Roadshow to be held on Saturday October 16. These outreach stories were very well done.

9. Town Day

- Joan reported that there was steady traffic at our booth. The owners of 140 Pond Street were especially interested in the house marker program.

10. Warrant Article

- Warrant article 17 for the October 21 Town Meeting asks for a preservation restriction on the OBG. Marcia distributed a copy of the motion that she will read at Town Meeting. It was prepared by the Massachusetts Historical Commission to further clarify that the restriction is contingent upon receipt of a matching grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund.
- Attorney Solomon ruled on Sept 28 that this motion was not outside the scope of the article.

11. New Business

- Marcia will contact Mary Todd about a November book presentation.
- The members discussed and voted "no adverse effect" for the First Baptist Church at 459 Main Street concerning the proposed installation of telecommunications antennas. Clearwire Technologies plans to follow the identical path that we negotiated in March of 2004 for the T-Mobile installation.
- The MetroPCS antennas appeared on the Dow Building on or about Sept 27 but do not have the faux chimneys covering them as the Zoning Board required. Joan is concerned because the faux chimneys in West Medford are not a good match to the existing chimneys. Marcia will follow-up.

The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 1, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of October 4, 2010 were approved with a notation that "Mr. Moss" (referenced in item 4) is the owner of 63 Elm Street.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$367.01 in the operating account after payment of a \$17.99 invoice for the OBG Open House sign. The donation account has a balance of \$1,239 after receipt of \$100 from the Stoneham Rotary Club and \$34 (58 participants) from the donation jar at the OBG Open House on October 24.

3. Web Site

- No progress was made during October on adding the 2010 Heritage Award or the thumbnails of the house markers.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- A request from the Day Family at 49 Perkins Street (1751) was received in October.
- No request was received from the owners of 140 Pond Street. Joan noted that John Hill probably owned the land and buildings known at the "Jesse Green Place" prior to Jesse Green. Marcia will research.
- No request was received from the owners of the old Town House.
- No additional information on 8 Gerry Street has been found beyond the 1872 date identified last month. Marcia will continue to research.

5. Burial Ground

- Steve noted there is interest in having the OBG open to the public in the spring.
- Marcia noted that Warrant Article 17 was approved at Town Meeting. It will allow a preservation restriction to be placed on the OBG contingent on Stoneham receiving a grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF). Also, David Ragucci is allowed to write a letter authorizing the use of matching funds from the Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Fund. We will not need Town Meeting approval according to Paul Rotondi, Chair of the Board of Selectmen.
- Joan and Marcia attended the Wakefield Historical Society's guided tour of their burying ground on Friday Oct 29. They have headstones dating to the late 1600's and one quite famous headstone (Rev. Jonathan Pierpoint 1709) attributed to Joseph Lamson that is coveted by the Smithsonian.

6. Mass Memories Road Show

- Steve recapped the highly successful event of Saturday October 16. Paul was able to find these statistics on-line: 138 attendees, 118 contributors, 442 images (63 keepsake photos) and 40 videos.

7. Adaptive Reuse of Central School

- Marcia noted that the SEEM Collaborative, current renters of North, East and Central Schools, have a contract that expires in the spring. Although there is an automatic renewal clause, no information is available about how SEEM plans to exercise its options.
- Marcia presented two approaches to adaptively reusing old municipal buildings. Walpole received a technical assistance grant of \$35,000 to study how best to reuse their 1903 public library. Wakefield is about to issue a Request for Proposal to redevelop their 1902 Franklin Elementary school into condos or single family homes or duplexes. Demolition is also an option.
- Joan and Joanne have contacts on the School Committee and will ask what, if anything, is known about the SEEM Collaborative rental status. Marcia will follow-up with Wakefield on their RFP.
- Marcia will follow-up with Fire Chief Rolli on the possibility of buried fuel tanks at the Central School.

8. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas

- Marcia spoke with Mike Dufour, Chair of the Zoning Board. He has informed the Building Inspector Cheryl Noble that she is not to issue an operating permit for the telecommunication antennas on the Dow Building until he has heard from Metro/PCS about meeting their obligation for faux chimneys.

The meeting ended at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 4, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

Absent: Paul Foley, Joanne DiMambro

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

1. Welcome

- Stephen Rotondi and Margaret Warren were reappointed for 3 year terms. The officers for 2010-11 are Stephen Rotondi – Chairman, Margaret Warren – Vice Chairman, Joan Quigley – Treasurer, Marcia Wengen – Secretary. There is one vacant seat.

2. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of April 5, 2010 were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$299.63 in the operating account and \$1,105 in the donation account. Joan estimated a balance of \$175 after the Heritage Award, Marcia's parking expenses at the Registry of Deeds and the Fire Station marker.

4. Web Site

- Marcia reported that the thumbnail pix for each house marker needs more research.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Members agreed to order a marker for Town Hall and list it as our 3rd Town Hall built in 1939. Margaret will submit this request along with requests for the Fire Station and 49 Bow Street. The marker will reduce the account balance to approximately \$125.
- There are no new applications. Marcia continues to research three outstanding requests.
- Joan asked about a possible Eagle Scout project involving OBG signage; one option might be to list the names of the Revolutionary War soldiers.

6. Walking Tour Brochures

- Margaret is working with Maureen Buckley to revise the 2009 version of the Historic Walking Tour brochure. Margaret expects to deliver a CD to the Vocational School for printing in time for Memorial Day, when there will be many people attending the re-dedication of Buckley Park..

7. Burial Ground

- Joan is continuing her research at the First Congregational Church on slave and Native American burials. She is reading the minister's records in the mid-

1800's. After the Civil War the church sponsored a black family from Virginia and a black family from South Carolina.

8. Heritage Award

- Steve has not had a response from Christin Oneschuk about the Award. Marcia offered to contact her. Steve suggested that the certificate be changed from SHS '82 Beautification Fund, Inc. to SHS '82 Beautification Committee. Marcia will try to make this correction happen before the presentation on May 18th.

9. Stoneham, MA: A Shoe Town on CD

- Steve has had no response from Attorney Solomon regarding our copyright and if any proceeds for proposed CD sales must be returned to the town. Steve will e-mail Town Counsel again.

10. Annual Joint Meeting – May 13th

- The guest speaker will be Maureen Saltzman. She will discuss the Mass Memories Road Show project. An invitation will be sent asking attendees to bring their memorabilia as a “dry run” for the real Road Show.

11. New Business

- The Society's Facebook page has 25 friends.
 - Heather Cole from UMASS Boston will discuss the Road Show on May 19th
 - Marcia will send a “no adverse effect” letter regarding the proposed reorientation and relocation of two existing T-Mobile antenna at 5 Woodland Road.
 - Marcia distributed e-mail correspondence indicating that Paul Holtz at MHC will not require a formal preservation restriction review of the proposed renovation of the Fire Station second floor sleeping quarters currently rented by Action Ambulance.
-
- The meeting ended at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 13, 2010 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Paul Foley, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

Excused: Joanne DiMambro

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of November 1, 2010 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$367.01 in the operating account \$1,239 in the donation account.

3. Web Site

- No progress.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- A request was received from the Grometstein family at 198 Franklin St. for Professor Queen's house (Charles B. Melvin, Jr.) listed as presdigitator (magician). The date will be 1892, 3 or 4. Margaret remembered there is no 1893 tax book in the HS. The owner was shown an article from the Independent at a HS Research Day about the house being built but she does not have a copy. Steve noted there is no access to the HS until after the holidays.
- 8 Gerry Street: there was a house on the lot when Orin Hersam sold it to John W. Cole, Painter in 1856.
- No request was received from the owners of 140 Pond Street.
- No request was received from the owners of the old Town House.
- Marcia will continue to research the Tay House at 51 Elm St. for date clues to the look-a-like house are 68 Elm.
- A historic marker was discussed for the Hancock Street home of C. Fannie Allyn (CFA), 19th century feminist, interested in temperance spiritualism and labor reform. It was decided that the HC should not buy markers for private homes. When we are sure of the address and know more information about CFA we could consider contacting the current owners.

5. Burial Ground

- An overhanging tree branch has been trimmed.
- Steve reported seeing a group of young girls in the OBG, perhaps they were scouts.
-

6. Adaptive Reuse of School Buildings

- Marcia presented the RFP that Wakefield issued for the adaptive reuse of its 1902 Franklin School (elementary). The restrictions on the sale of this town

owned land and school building limit the development to condos if the building is reused or 8 single or two family homes if the building is demolished. Reuse of the building requires the developer to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is defined altering or adding to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character.

- Marcia noted that although the North School is not listed on the State or National Registers, its 1938 plans were drawn up by the noted architectural firm of Kilham, Hopkins and Greeley who have an extensive portfolio of historic buildings including the Mass College of Pharmacy and the original Federal Reserve Building.
- Marcia heard unofficially that SEEM Collaborative may not renew its rental of North School for September, 2011.
- Margaret noted that this is the time for us to be proactive about preserving historic buildings.
- Steve announced a conflict of interest that could keep him from discussing or voting on the adaptive reuse of North School.
- It was agreed that Marcia would meet with the Town Administrator to discuss the adaptive reuse of North School and report back to the Historical Commission.

7. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas

- Marcia had no update from Mike Dufour, Chair of the Zoning Board. She will follow-up about the Metro/PCS faux chimneys.

8. New Business

- Margaret presented a 12/10 e-mail from Becky Napoleon, writer for a new online Stoneham newspaper at www.stoneham.patch.com, requesting information about the Almshouse. This would be the first of a weekly feature spotlighting historic buildings in town beginning on Dec 15.
- Given the short notice, Marcia volunteered to provide already existing information about the fire station instead.
- Paul checked the web and discovered that Patch is nation-wide including other towns in MA.
- Steve noted that Becky could download the Walking tour brochure from the Society's webpage for information about other historic buildings.
- Due to scheduling conflicts the next meeting will be on Monday January 10 at the Senior Center.

The meeting ended at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 10, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

Excused: Paul Foley

Guest: Marina Memmo

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of December 13, 2010 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$367.01 in the operating account \$1,239 in the donation account.

3. Web Site

- No progress.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications.
- 8 Gerry Street: there was a house on the lot when Orin Hersam sold it to John W. Cole, Painter in 1856; to trace who Orin Hersam bought it from will require looking through 74 listings. Joan remembered seeing Orin on old census listings as a master builder which would explain the volume of transactions.
- By a vote of 3-2, the members agreed to send \$10 to the Historical Society along with an evaluation form to access folders in Joanne Harriman's file and tax books related to historic houses.
- Marcia will e-mail research status on 8 Gerry St (to Margaret) and 63 Elm St (to Joan) so they can update the owners.

5. Burial Ground

- Steve reviewed the OBG project to create a video about the "final addresses of famous Stonehamites" in which the HC members would tour the OBG and discuss the history of the Town's founding families. Joanne, Margaret, Joan and Marcia each have copies of their original research. Marina reminded Steve that she did some filming at one of the OBG open house events that could be the beginning of such a project. In studio presentations might be possible against the "green screen".

6. Adaptive Reuse of School Buildings

- Marcia reported that Town Administrator David Ragucci was receptive to the idea of a Request for Proposal for the rehabilitation of North and East schools should they come off line and be returned to the town.
- Action items: David will ask for a status on the buildings from Dr. Olsen; Marcia will discuss the need for such a project with various Selectmen.

7. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas

- Marcia reported that the two faux chimneys from Metro/PCS are in place and look remarkably like the current chimneys with granite caps. Building inspector, Cheryl Noble is awaiting an installation report from the engineers before she gives her final approval.

8. Annual Report

- Members reviewed highlights of 2010 including the Heritage Award for the Police Box, on-going house marker program, town meeting approval of an OBG preservation restriction, markers identifying the architects for the Fire Station and Town Hall, and participation in the Mass Memories Roadshow.

9. Open Forum

- Becky Napoleon, writer for a new online Stoneham newspaper at www.stoneham.patch.com, submitted on the Fire Station, the First Congregational Church and the John Botume House. None of the information on the last two buildings came from the Historical Commission.
- Marina explained that the Patch licensing agreement gives them rights to whatever text and photos we share with them. They own it and can use it any way they see fit, including to make money for themselves.
- The HC members agreed that our web page will not feature a link to her articles; if she requests additional information from the HC we will only provide existing work products and not do the research for her.
- Marina discussed two projects she is interested in developing this year: 1.) the 150 anniversary of the Civil War and Stoneham's participation in the Baltimore Riot of April 19, 1861 and 2.) 10th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack. 9/11 photos and texts submitted by Stoneham residents could be appear on the Public Library web site.
- Steve is searching for a Civil War speaker for the April Historical Society meeting. Steve Heinstrom is a possibility.

The meeting ended at 9:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 7, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Paul Foley, Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi,
Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.
Guest: Mary Todd

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Book Presentation

- Mary Todd, Library Director accepted our donation of books: *Architects Make Zigzags: Looking at Architecture from A to Z* by Diane Maddex, *Uncovering Your Ancestry through Family Photographs* by Maureen Taylor, *Iggy Peck, Architect* by Andrea Beaty and David Roberts, *New Rooms for Old Houses: Beautiful Additions for the Traditional Home (National Trust for Historic Preservation)* by Frank Shirley and Randy O'Rourke, *Capes: Design Ideas for Renovating, Remodeling, and Building New (Updating Classic America)* by Jane Gitlin, and *Organizing and Preserving Your Heirloom Documents* by Katherine Scott Sturdevant

2. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of January 10, 2011 were approved. The web address in item 10 did not print. It is: www.stoneham.patch.com

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$367.01 in the operating account \$1,239 in the donation account.
- Members votes to approve payment of Marcia's three parking vouchers for trips to the Cambridge Registry of Deeds totaling \$16.50.

4. Web Site

- Marina Memmo added thumbnails of Margaret's house marker pictures to the list of house markers. We thank them for their efforts.
- Marcia added the 2010 Heritage Award picture and the call for 2011 Heritage Award nominations.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications.
- Margaret and Marcia prepared a list of historic house markers: 22 are finished and mounted; 7 are open and 7 are of interest although no formal applications have been sent in.
- A unfavorable reply as received from the Historical Society regarding our evaluation form to access folders in Joanne Harriman's file and tax books related to historic houses. Steve will put this item on the agenda for the next HS Board meeting.

6. Burial Ground

- The Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund is accepting grant applications by March 25 for the \$780,000 to \$800,000 allotment for 2011.
 - A requirement for our grant application to develop a preservation plan for the OBG, we need to show community support. Marcia sent requests of our 3 state legislators; Jason Lewis has agreed to send a letter of support. Members also suggest the Historical Society, Ed Markey, the Helping Our Troops group, Maureen Buckley for the scouts and David Ragucci.
7. Adaptive Reuse of School Buildings
- Marcia reported that Board of Selectmen Chairman Rotondi is receptive to receiving a letter about the North and East school buildings with conditions from the Historical Commission.
 - As of Feb 2, Town Administrator David Ragucci had no answer from the Superintendent about the status of SEEM continuing to lease the schools.
 - Members reviewed the draft of a cover letter and conditions for the adaptive reuse of the two schools. Extensive changes were made and Marcia will edit the document in preparation for Steve's signature as he no longer has a conflict of interest on this project.
 - Marcia is meeting with Selectman DePinto on Feb 14 and will call Selectmen Vallarelli for an appointment. Selectmen Gregorio is willing to meet but wants David Ragucci there. No contact from Selectman Sweeney yet.
8. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas
- Nothing new.
9. Annual Report
- Members reviewed a draft of the 2010 Annual Report. Steve added comments about the Preservation Restriction and the Mass Memories Road Show.
10. Open Forum
- Marcia noted the collapse of Joe Cunningham's vacant two family house at 18/18A Common Street on February 4 under the weight of snow.
 - A January 24 email was sent to the HC from DCR inviting us to make a presentation about historical structures in the Middlesex Fells on February 23. This is one in a series of public workshops to gather information for DCR to develop a Resource Management Plan for the Middlesex Fells Reservation. Marcia and Marina will put together a PowerPoint presentation. Margaret will check her calendar to see if she is available to make the presentation.
 - Joan made note of Medford's *Civil War Roundtable*. They are a knowledgeable group of Civil War buffs who might be willing to speak at the April HS meeting.
 - Steve discussed his interest in putting Weiss Farm on the agenda for next month. This historic property is the last farm in Stoneham.

The meeting ended at 8:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

March 7, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

Guest: Donna Weiss

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of February 7, 2011 were approved. The meeting was held at the Public Library, not the Senior Center.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$350.51 in the operating account \$1,239 in the donation account.

3. Weiss Farm

- Donna Weiss explained the loss of her composting license and noted that the Town is not currently enforcing the 'cease & desist' order contrary to the January 31 article in the Stoneham Independent. On February 28, her attorney filed an application for a license to operate a smaller composting enterprise. We await the DEP open comment period to send a letter in support for this last operating farm in Stoneham. The days of local dairy farming are gone forever and Weiss Farm has adaptively reused the property to board horses, grow Christmas trees, and sell honey, compost and mulch.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- Steve explained the rejected request for house marker research as being too confusing. He reported that any information in Joanne Harriman's personal file about historic houses is in her *Images of America* book. A date has not been set for the April Research Saturday. If tax books need to be viewed before then, we can submit an application for that specific task.
- Marcia reported that Randall Gromestein, owner of 198 Franklin Street, has volunteered to search the Library's microfilm for the alleged article about Professor Queen having his house built in 'Franklinville'. The search dates range from 1892-1894. If that fails she plans to attend the SHS Research Day. Margaret reminded us that the 1893 tax book is missing from the SHS.
- There are no new applications for markers.

5. Website

- Marcia reported that the notice for the 2011 Heritage Award nominations is on the web page with a due date of April 1. She will notify the Independent and SUN.

6. Burial Ground

- A motion was supported unanimously to apply for a grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Project Fund for the development of a Preservation Master Plan for the OBG. Due date is March 25. Steve signed the required letter of support.
7. Adaptive Reuse of School Buildings
- A motion was supported unanimously to submit a letter of conditions to the Selectmen for the adaptive reuse of the North and East schools should they be no longer rented by SEEM Collaborative and released by the School Committee. Steve signed the letter that asks for all renovation work and new additions to comply with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.
 - Marcia noted that last Monday the Wakefield Board of Selectmen approved the sale of their 1903 Franklin Elementary School for \$800,000 for the adaptive reuse as 20 condominiums. The article will go to Town Meeting in May and require a 2/3rds vote to pass.
8. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas
- Marcia learned that the Zoning Board of Appeals is dissatisfied with the two Metro/PCS faux chimneys on Dow Block.
 - She presented recent photos of the existing and new chimneys and a copy of the Zoning Board's decision letter of May 5, 2009. HC members noted that none of the existing chimneys match; all members were in agreement that the faux chimneys are satisfactory. Marcia will attend the next Zoning Board meeting to learn why they are dissatisfied.
9. Open Forum
- Joan will follow-up with the Medford Historical Society regarding Medford's *Civil War Roundtable*. They are a knowledgeable group of Civil War buffs who might be willing to speak at the April HS meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 4, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of March 7, 2011 were approved.

•

2. Treasurer's Report

- In Joan's absence, Marcia reported a balance of \$350.51 in the operating account \$1,239 in the donation account. The members voted to approve Marcia's invoice \$49.90 for MPPF grant application supplies.

3. Web Site

- If permission is granted, Marcia will add article "5 Ways Homeowners Can Help Save Historic Houses" by Marian Pierre-Louis of the Medway Historical Commission.
- Marcia will add the adaptive reuse letter with conditions for the rehabilitation of the North and East schools to the web site.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- One new application from Henry Sampson for 8 Highland Ave with a reported built date of '? 1897'.
- The owners of 8 Gerry Street are anxious for a decision on the date of their house. The stumbling block is the 70+ entries that must be researched on Orin Hersam. The Commission members discussed the options as 1) a circa date or 2) the owners hire a professional or research the Hersam entries themselves. Marcia will clarify dates for Margaret to send to the owners.
- No word from the owner of 198 Franklin as to success or failure of finding the alleged article about the building of her house in 1892, 3 or 4.

5. Burial Ground

- The grant application for a Preservation Master Plan for the Old Burying Ground was submitted on March 24 to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Award announcement date is June 8. Copies of the application were given to each member.
- DPW sent a letter to the owners of the Gould Street automotive repair business to fix the OBG chain link fence damaged by their snow plows.
- Steve noted that the web site FindAGrave has over 200 additions to the OBG since he originally added Capt. Samuel Sprague and Rev. James Osgood.
- Marcia reported that John Glassford from Essex County was responsible for the additions which he took from the death records *in Vital Records of Stoneham through 1849*. Glassford is interested in photographing the OBG headstones and adding them to FindAGrave, but not before we know the results of the MPPF grant application. He will also correct date discrepancies.

- Marcia noted that the HC may wish to store the out-of-ground gravestones and broken pieces in the town tomb at Lindenwood.
6. Adaptive Reuse of School Buildings
- Marcia reported that 3 of the 5 Selectmen (Sweeney, Vallarelli & DePinto) are enthusiastic about adaptively reusing North and East school buildings if SEEM Collaborative decides not to extend their lease. Selectmen Rotondi and Gregorio are neutral but have no interest in beginning the RFP process until the school buildings are released by the School Committee.
 - Selectmen Gregorio requested his meeting with Marcia to include David Ragucci and Shelly MacNeill. Shelly was late to the meeting so Marcia met with her separately. She is a resident of Beacon Street, has a copy of our conditions and will talk to her neighbors about the disposition of East School.
 - Marcia reported that Shelly was unable to attend tonight's Commission meeting but e-mailed Marcia that her neighbors were 'cautiously supportive' of the concept. Shelly also discussed the adaptive reuse with Ray Mooney, President of Stoneham Little League that uses the two ball fields behind East School. His Board may want some representation in the process.
 - Paul Foley knows Ray and will speak with him about the adaptive reuse and his concerns, if any, about the playing fields that were the center of a heated debate sometime in the last three years. Paul knows a Dan Doherty on Broadway who might be a resource for the North School neighborhood.
7. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas
- Marcia learned that the Zoning Board of Appeals is dissatisfied with the two Metro/PCS faux chimneys on Dow Block because the corbelling is not satisfactory and Metro/PCS erected the chimneys without advance approval as instructed.
 - She presented them with recent photos of the existing and new chimneys and a copy of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. She noted that none of the existing chimneys match and that the Historical Commission voted to accept the chimneys as erected. Zoning Board members agreed.
8. Heritage Award
- No applications were received. Of the two nominees from Commission members, it was voted that the Heritage Award be given to Maureen Saltzman for an enormously successful Mass Memories Road Show.
9. Open Forum
- The terms of members Joan Quigley and Joanne DiMambro expire April 30.
 - Research Day at the Historical Society is Saturday April 30 from 2-4 pm.
 - There is no additional information about the Weiss Farm proposal to DEP. Marcia presented a draft of a possible letter of support.

The meeting ended at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 3, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

Excused: Paul Foley

Guest: Shelly MacNeill

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Adaptive Reuse of Old Public Buildings

- Shelly MacNeill, Chairperson of the School Committee and Beacon Street resident was recognized and spoke in favor of the Historical Commission's plan to adaptively reuse the North and East Elementary school buildings. Her neighbors and Ray Mooney, President of Little League, are interested in learning more about reuse. She encouraged the Commission to engage the community by offering a public meeting for all stakeholders, including but not limited to neighbors and elected/appointed officials.
- Questions which need research include: do the athletic fields at East School fall under the purview of protected open space under Article 97? Will the School Department need the athletic fields for swing space in the event of construction on High School land? What is the process for rezoning the buildings and land from an educational to a residential district?
- Steve will speak with Selectman Rotondi and Marcia will speak with Town Administrator Ragucci about a possible stakeholders meeting on Wednesday May 25.

2. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of April 4, 2011 were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported a balance of \$263.96 after Marcia submits her invoice for Heritage Award expenses of \$36.65. It was determined to earmark \$55 for a marker for the 1852 Almshouse and \$11 for parking at the Cambridge Registry of Deeds. Margaret will research appropriate book purchases for the \$197 balance and report at the June meeting. The donation account has a balance of \$1,239.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- No new applications.
- The owners of 8 Gerry Street agreed to have their marker read *CA. 1856 Built by Orin Hersam Carpenter.*
- The owner of 198 Franklin agreed to have her marker read *1892 Built for Charles B. Melvin, Jr. Prestidigitator.*

5. Reorganization

- Joanne DiMambro and Joan Quigley were reappointed for 3 year terms. The officers for 2011-12 are Stephen Rotondi – Chairman, Margaret Warren – Vice Chairman, Joan Quigley – Treasurer, Marcia Wengen – Secretary. There is one vacant seat.

6. Heritage Award

- Steve reported that Maureen Saltzman is thrilled about this honor. The presentation is Tuesday May 10 at 7:01 pm. Margaret will notify Heather Cole, Director of the Mass Memories Road Show.

7. Burial Ground

- Marcia received an official notice from the Mass Historical Commission regarding the grant application that was submitted on March 24. They noted that a section was missing from the application but follow-up revealed that because this is a predevelopment project the information was not required.
- DPW received a response from the owners of the Gould Street automotive repair business noting that they would hire Cleveland Fence to fix the OBG fence damaged by their snow plows. Marcia noted that on last inspection the bent pipe was reconnected but the chain links were not attached to the pipe. She will follow up.
- Marcia reported that local resident Sheila Foley, who serves with the Lincoln Minuteman as a fifer, may be able to attend our Open House. There may one or more minutemen from North Reading interested also. The tentative date is Saturday October 29 from 2-4 p.m. weather permitting.

8. Web Site

- Permission was granted, but Marcia has not yet added the article “5 Ways Homeowners Can Help Save Historic Houses” by Marian Pierre-Louis of the Medway Historical Commission.
- Marcia added the adaptive reuse letter with conditions for the rehabilitation of the North and East schools to the web site.

9. Dow Block Telecommunication Antennas

- No new projects. Remove from agenda.

10. Open Forum

- There is no additional information about the Weiss Farm proposal to DEP.
- The joint meeting of the Commission and Society is schedule for Thursday May 12 in honor of Preservation Month.
- Marcia distributed a letter from Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director at the Mass Historical Commission. In the letter she asked for a technical correction to the National Register records related to the Middlesex Fells Reservation Parkways. Marcia noted that our 2009 letter to Ms. Friedberg asking for Elisha *Wright* Homestead to be correct to Elisha *Knight* homestead was never acted upon. Marcia will follow-up.

The meeting ended at 9:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 25, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

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

Guests: Selectmen Paul Rotondi, Frank Vallarelli; Town Administrator David Ragucci; School Committee members: Jeanne Craigie, David Maurer, Marie Christie, Dr. Les Olsen; Planning Board member Kevin McLaughlin; Little League President Ray Mooney, et al. and approximately 20 residents of the North and East School neighborhoods or school alumni.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Stakeholder's Meeting

- Stephen Rotondi welcomed the audience to the Stakeholder's meeting for the purpose of discussing the adaptive reuse of the North and East School properties.
- Marcia Wengen offered a Power Point presentation explaining the purpose and accomplishments of the Historical Commission, a brief history of the North and East schools, examples of adaptive reused buildings, the town of Wakefield's recent sale of the 1902 Franklin School, and a possible timeline for Stoneham's sale of their schools.
- Audience members asked questions and raised a number of issues including but not limited to:
 - Neighbors concern about current parking abuses at North School
 - Little league interest in retaining the ball fields at East School
 - School committee interest in subdividing East School from the ball fields
 - Neighbors concern that an addition to North School be 'small' leaving plenty of green/open space; another suggestion that addition be no more than 50% of size of current building; can the playground be retained
 - Selectmen Rotondi's interest in having sale of properties and on going property tax revenue pay for a new middle school
 - Possible use of North school as market rate condominium or assisted living complex
 - Question not enough parking for condos at East School; retain flag pole

The meeting ended at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 6, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

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

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of May 3 and May 25, 2011 were approved. Joan Quigley was present for the May 3 meeting.
- Joanne DiMambro presented her appointment papers.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Members approved the invoice for \$22.27 for coffee and cookies for the Stakeholder's Meeting. Left-over cups and non-perishable items are in Joanne's custody. The remainder of the half&half was donated to the Senior Center.
- Joan reported the following deductions from the previous balance of \$263.96: invoices for \$5.50 for Cambridge Deeds parking, \$22.27 for coffee and cookies, and \$55.00 earmarked for the Almshouse marker leaving a balance of \$181.91. The donation account has a balance of \$1,239.

3. Website

- The 2011 Heritage Award information has been added to the town web page.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- No new applications.
- The Almshouse marker will read *2nd Almshouse Designed by Amasa Farrier*. If there is enough space *Built by Orin Hersam* will be added.
- The research for 8 Highland Ave indicates that the house may have been built by Delbert W. Dennis and could date to 1889. Marcia needs to confirm local tax book and Ancestry.com research at the Registry of Deeds.
- The potential confusion of the Charles Gill house may have begun with the initial purchase of 7 acres of land by Gill, Woodward and 3 other men. More research is needed. Robert Columbus, owner of 86 Pleasant St contends his house is Charles Gill's not 76 Pleasant as posted.

5. Burial Ground

- The MPPF grants will be awarded on Wednesday June 8. Losers are notified on June 9.
- One of the tomb doors is slightly ajar but cannot be opened further because it is blocked by the asphalt sidewalk. Larry Brophy, Deputy DPW Director, attempted to open it in response to a question from Marcia regarding the whereabouts of keys to the tombs; i.e. for the MPPF grant application, would we need a locksmith?
- Steve asked that consideration be given to having the Old Burying Ground sign re-painted, hopefully before our October Open House. Marcia will follow-up with Larry Brophy.

- The S.A.R. flag holder for Jonathan Green was removed by Marcia after she found it bent and damaged by a lawnmower. It has been straightened by DPW along with the one from Major Wilson's grave and will be returned to the OBG.
 - Marcia will research the procedure to apply for a flat marker for Civil War veteran J. Parker Gould whose headstone in Lindenwood Cemetery has weathered almost beyond recognition.
6. Adaptive Reuse
- Margaret sent an e-mail to members on Saturday evening regarding a recent Stoneham Independent article about the North and East Schools.
 - Marcia noted that Bee Russo submitted a letter to the editors of the Independent and SUN of June 1 regarding the Stakeholder's Meeting.
 - Marcia queried Shelly MacNeill about the rumor that a faction of Beacon Street residents are interested in the demolition of East School to create parking for the users of the ball fields. No response has been received.
7. Books for Library
- Margaret presented two lists from the librarians at the Middle and High schools for books that would be of interest to their students. Members voted to have Margaret purchase the 7 books from Book Oasis plus one extra copy of *Defiance of the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America* for the Public Library. The purchase cannot exceed \$181.91
8. Open Forum
- There is no additional information about the Weiss Farm proposal to DEP. If the comment period should occur over the summer the members voted to have Steve and Marcia send a positive comment on behalf of the Historical Commission.
 - Marcia issued the schedule of Commission meetings beginning in September. Town Day is September 17.

The meeting ended at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 6, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. MWRA Covered Water Storage

- Members reviewed the architectural drawings for the proposed overflow pipe from the underground concrete water storage facility (east of the former Boston Regional Medical Center) to Spot Pond. The plans and report are required for the MWRA to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

2. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of June 6, 2011 were approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported less than \$1 balance in our operating account after the book purchases and the encumbrance of \$55 for the Almshouse marker. The donation account has a balance of \$1,239. There are no invoices for the \$385 for FY '12.

4. Book Purchase

- Margaret reported the purchase of 16 books from Book Oasis for the libraries at the following schools: High, Middle, Central Elementary, and South Schools. The Public Library received one copy of Defiance of the Patriots, by Benjamin Carp.
- Margaret labeled the books as gifts from the Historical Commission before she delivered them.
- Steve noted that BJ's was offering Joanne Harriman's Images of Stoneham for \$14.50. This is well below the reprint price of \$21.99

5. Website

- Marcia reported no changes.

6. Historic House Marker Program

- Two new applications: 13A Hersam and 3 Morrison Ave
- Margaret reported the June 10 order for 198 Franklin, 8 Gerry and the Almshouse has been carved but not painted. The owners of 8 Gerry St continue to be disappointed with the delays both in research and sign production.
- Joan reported no response to her emails to the owners of 10 Bow and 63 Elm.
- Steve reminded the members about the Wall Street journal article on Ranch Houses.

7. Burial Ground

- In June, Stoneham was awarded \$20,000 matching grant for the preparation of a Preservation Master Plan for the Old Burying Ground.
- Marcia distributed a draft of the revised Request for Proposals dated August 22, 2011. Mass Historic Commission now needs to approve the RFPs, prepare a contract for the Town Administrator to sign and prepare the preservation

restriction. The delay appears to be that the State has not funded the \$800,000 for Round 17 of the MPPF grants.

- Steve asked if this grant would be in jeopardy if the Commission should receive a windfall. Marcia noted the general wording in the grant application suggested by Attorney Solomon: *funds allocated, including donations* should cover us.
- Marcia reported that the Lindenwood Cemetery sign was repainted by Gamit at a cost of \$350. Marcia will ask David Ragucci about the possibility of having the town pay for the repainting of the Old Burying Ground sign.
- Marcia researched the procedure to apply for a flat marker for Civil War veteran J. Parker Gould whose headstone in Lindenwood Cemetery has weathered almost beyond recognition. Civil War veterans are eligible for upright markers that require special research at/from NARA. Joan noted that Col. Gould died in the war and would have no records of pension or land bounty grants. She was able to find his service record in Ancestry.com but we do not know if it will satisfy the application requirements. Steve noted the proposed marker looked remarkably like the current one and requested more research on a flat marker.
- From the street it appears that the OBG sustained only minor tree damaged from hurricane Irene.

8. Adaptive Reuse

- Steve recused himself and left the meeting. Margaret assumed the duties of the Chairman.
- Marcia reported that during the summer two Requests for Proposals were written, one for the adaptive reuse of the East School and one for either the adaptive reuse or demolition of the North School. The North School RFPs included the option for 10 single family homes at the request of Mark Drew of 172 Collincote Street in a public hearing.
- Only one proposal for *East School* was received by the deadline of August 29. Marcia distributed relevant pages from the \$300,000 proposal of Beacon Partners, LLC to reuse the building as 3 condominiums. Two of the units will be owner occupied by the partners, Larry and Bee Russo and Jean and Ron Brian. Of concern is the underground parking that will require demolition of a portion of the east façade and the recessed terraces that will require demolition of a portion of the east roof.
- Two proposals for *North School* were received by the August 29 deadline. Both proposals call for the demolition of the North School. One for \$1.1 million from Dakota Partners is not being considered because it specifies the development of 47 rental units rather than the specified owner-occupied condominiums. The other proposal for \$2.8 million from the Gralia Group calls for a 90 apartment assisted living residential complex which will be the seventh in 'The Arbors' chain.
- Marcia distributed the relevant pages of the Gralia Group proposal and *Exhibit D, Deconstruction Guidelines* from the RFPs. She noted that the Gralia proposal does not address the requirement to hire a preservation professional to document the building before it is demolished.
- The Historical Commission has one seat on the Selection Committee appointed by the Selectmen. Marcia will attend the Sept 7 meeting called to review the two proposals. She requested the members to either attend this public meeting or send their questions to her before 3:00 pm. The schedule is: 4:30 pm East School and 6:00 pm North School in the Town Hall auditorium.

9. New Business

- Steve returned to the meeting and assumed the duties of Chairman.
- Town Day is Saturday September 17 from 11 am to 4 pm. The set-up details are not known yet. Marcia was given a box of 200th anniversary fobs from John Hanright's office. The members agreed to offer them for a \$5 donation to the Historical Commission Donation Account. Half the fobs will be given to the Historical Society.
- The members voted unanimously to appoint Joan Quigley to the newly created Dedication Committee that will recognize the civic service and accomplishments of current and past residents.

10. Open Forum

- There is no additional information about the Weiss Farm proposal to DEP.

The meeting ended at 9:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

November 7, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen. *Guest:* Tammy Ford. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of September 6, 2011 were approved. There was no meeting in October.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Joan reported no invoices against the \$385 for FY '12. The donation account has a balance of \$1,239. Marcia turned in \$15 from the sale of three 200th anniversary watch fobs at Town Day.

3. Website

Marcia reported no changes. Tammy may be interested in creating a no/low cost web page that is easily maintained by anyone.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- In spite of the interest at Town Day, no new applications have been received.
- Margaret reported the June 10 order for 198 Franklin, 8 Gerry and the Almshouse has been carved but not painted. The owners of 8 Gerry St may drop out of the program because of the delays both in research and sign production. Steve reminded us that if they have their own sign created; it cannot include 'Stoneham Historical Commission'.

5. Burial Ground

- The OBG was not opened on October 29 due to inclement weather (rain, then snow) although there were people at the gate at 2 P.M. A cancellation sign would have been helpful. Margaret noted that the Chamber of Commerce sponsored a trick or treat event downtown during the same hours, 2-4 pm. For next year, we should consider combining the events.
- Several tree limbs were on the ground and sidewalk in the northeast corner of the OBG from the Halloween weekend snowstorm. From the street, it appears that no damage was done to any gravestones.
- The OBG Request for Proposals for the preparation of a Preservation Master Plan will be posted on the town web page by 10 am on Wednesday Nov 9th. Notices will be posted in the Independent and in the Goods & Services listing at www.mass.gov/sec web page. Key dates are: briefing/walkthrough on Thurs. Nov 17 at 10:30 am and proposal due date Tuesday December 6 at 10 am. The grant ends on June 30, 2012. A warrant article is being drafted to ask the February Town Meeting to up to release up to \$40K from the Cemetery Perpetual Care-Income Trust Fund. \$20K will be reimbursed to the fund upon successful completion of the project.
- David Ragucci suggested that the SHC have the OBG sign repainted using funds from the required donation to the SHC from the sale North School. Given that

sale did not occur, Marcia will make another request. A suggestion was made to approach the vocation school students about making a new sign.

- Marcia was unable to find information for a flat, in-ground marker for Civil War veteran J. Parker Gould whose headstone in Lindenwood Cemetery has weathered almost beyond recognition. Civil War veterans are eligible for upright markers that require special research at/from NARA. Joan and Marcia will consider a trip to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Waltham. Steve may be able to learn more from Mr. Barile at Rotary.

6. Adaptive Reuse

- Marcia noted that the East School warrant articles for the sale and rezoning of East School passed at the October 13 town meeting. Beacon Realty, LLP signed a Purchase & Sale agreement on that date and their due diligence has determined no soil contamination from the underground oil tank. The expected closing date is December 9.
- The Gralia Group proposal to demolish North School and build a 90 unit assisted living residential complex ('The Arbors') was dismissed by the Board of Selectmen on September 20 because of neighborhood opposition to the density. An abutter, Mark Drew, is spearheading a neighborhood group to determine what development is acceptable to the neighbors. A public meeting is scheduled for Tues Nov 8 at 6:30 p.m. Jeff Rhuda, development expert from Symes Associates, will discuss why his company did not make a proposal for a ten house subdivision.

7. New Business

- Steve Rotondi received two letters from the Ottery Group in Silver Spring, MD regarding AT&T Mobility's modifications of telecommunications facilities at 7 Stonehill Drive (10/17/11) and 5 Woodland Road South (10/25/11). Neither of these undertakings have an adverse effect on the Caleb Willey house, the John Bottume house or the Tudor ice house under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Marcia will send the appropriate letters.

8. Open Forum

- On behalf of the Historical Commission, Steve and Marcia submitted an e-mail on September 21 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in support of Weiss Farm's request for a reduced composting operation. Donna notified Steve and Marcia on October 21 that the DEP decided to suspend the decision on her application for composting "...due to the pending litigation involving the farm and [Mr.] Wantman and the town."
- Tammy Ford noted that she has lots of ideas about how we might promote the Historical Commission and she will develop a proposal for our next meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 5, 2011 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen. *Absent:* Joan Quigley The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of November 7, 2011 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Marcia read Joan's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account.

3. Website

Marcia reported no changes. Tammy Ford e-mailed Marcia to say she is preparing a proposal for our January meeting. She could not attend tonight because of school final exams. Marcia was requested to inquire if Tammy plans to apply for membership or opt to be an unpaid consultant for the HC.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- No new applications have been received.
- The owner of 8 Highland Ave has agreed to a marker: 1889/ Built by Delbert W. Dennis/ Carpenter.
- Marcia reported her reminders to Mark at Gamit Signs about the 3 outstanding house markers while he is working on the required 'Preservation Works' sign for the OBG project.
- Marcia will send a request to the Historical Society to research the circa 1892 - 1886 house at 3 Morrison Ave (then 3 Shumway Circle). The land/house owners were Charles Stedman Hanks and H. Henry Douglas, both out-of-towners, so the information should be easy to locate.
- Margaret reported no further communication from the owners of 8 Gerry St.

5. Burial Ground

- The OBG Request for Proposals for the preparation of a Preservation Master Plan are due tomorrow, December 6. Of the five individuals/companies who showed interest, two have notified Marcia they will not submit proposals. One reported the required work exceeded the budget of \$39,400. Marcia expects the groups from Providence, RI and New Salem, MA may submit proposals. If no proposals are received, the RFP will be amended and re-issued.
- Steve noted that warrant articles to request funds are the norm, especially for cemetery funds that are released annually by Town Meeting to DPW for Lindenwood Cemetery.
- Steve reported that Ralph Barile is willing to help us secure a flat cemetery marker for J. Parker Gould. Steve would like to have a ceremony for the installation of the marker.

6. Adaptive Reuse

- Marcia noted that the East School sale to Beacon Partners is still on target for this month.

- There is a public hearing on December 6 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the North School RFP. At the request of a North School neighbor, David Ragucci asked Mr. Grover to draw a plan of three house lots fronting Collincote Street that would effectively screen whatever development occurs behind them. It is expected that Mark Drew has met with his neighbors and will have comments about what types of development are acceptable to the neighbors.

7. New Business

- Steve noted that Elsie Wallace may attend our January meeting to ask for advice on writing grant applications for an elevator in the Congregational Church. Marcia commented that elevator design has improved and they no longer require a machinery 'house' on the roof of the building.
- Marcia noted the MWRA letter of November 7 to the Mass Historical Commission updating the status of the Spot Pond Covered Storage Facility. The information on page 4 about the three test pits and the artifacts that were found was interesting.
- The Annual Report is due January 10. Items to be included: Stakeholders Meeting in May to present Adaptive Reuse of North and East Schools, # of historic house markers installed, adaptive reuse of East School, OBG Preservation Master Plan that was 1 of 43 applications totaling 2.3 million dollars, 2011 Heritage Award winner Maureen Saltzman, etc.

8. Open Forum

- Steve noted that Weiss Farm will be in court this week for the litigation involving the farm, Mr. Wantman and the town.
- The next meeting will be on Tuesday January 3 at 7 pm in the Senior Center due to the legal holiday on Monday.

The meeting ended at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 3, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of December 5, 2011 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account was approved.

3. Welcome

- Steve welcomed our newest member Tammy Ford who was appointed by the Selectmen until April 30, 2013.

4. Website

Tammy presented a plan to create a web page for the Commission using one of three free services: Google, Weebly or Wix.com. One or more social media outlets, such as a Facebook page (rather than a Facebook account), will be considered. Both will contribute to the visibility of the HC mission and programs. Tammy will create a mock-up for us to review next month. She is awaiting a response from Tom Cicutelli, the town's information technologist, about linkage to the new pages from the town's web site.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- Applications have been received from the mother of the owner of 91 Marble St and the owner of 193 Franklin Street. Marcia provided an updated list.
- Joan will conduct probate research on Josiah Green for 49 Perkins St.
- Marcia reported that Mark at Gamit Signs will have three markers outstanding since June ready on Friday Jan 6 at no charge.
- Marcia has been in touch with Paula Salerno, a sign maker in Holliston, who solicited the HC last April about her historic markers. Paula noted that the house shape complicates production and raises the cost. Marcia asked her for a bid on our existing format and a simpler version to be presented at the HC meeting in February. Two questions will need to be addressed: how to handle the price difference between \$55 and the new price for signs already requested and whether the market will bear the new price.

6. Burial Ground

- The OBG Request for Proposals has been revised and reissued because no proposals were submitted on Dec 6.
- The new due date is January 24, 2012 and the requirements for the ground penetrating radar, GPS coordinates for each gravestone and a historical narrative are eliminated. The inventory is requested to be an update to the 2007

Eagle Scout inventory. Five vendors have accessed the RFP. The briefing/site visit is scheduled for Thursday January 5, 2012 at 10:30 a.m.

- Marcia reported that the blue National Register sign in the Old Burying Ground was removed by Mark at Gamit signs for repainting.
- Marcia reported that the red *Preservation Works* sign has been erected in the OBG. It is a requirement of the Mass Preservation Projects Fund (MPPF) grant.
- Steve reviewed the application for a flat cemetery marker for J. Parker Gould who is buried in Lindenwood Cemetery. Joan volunteered to research Colonel Gould's military records at NARA in Waltham. If she is unsuccessful, Marcia will order the records from Washington, DC at a cost of \$25.
- Marcia handed out *Terra Firma*, a publication of the DCR, concerning historic cemeteries. Stoneham's OBG is featured on page 6 as an example of the need for risk assessment on trees that have the potential to damage gravestones, wall and fences.

7. Adaptive Reuse

- Marcia noted that the East School sale to Beacon Partners is expected to be completed on or before January 19, 2012.
- At a 6 p.m. Town Hall public hearing tonight, Mark Drew presented the concerns and a list of developments (assisted living if under 50 units, single family homes, town homes but not as rentals) that would be acceptable to the Collincote Street neighbors. David Ragucci noted that the goal is to issue a new RFP, create a zoning by-law and identify a developer for a vote at the May Town Meeting.

8. New Business

- The members voted to support the Selectmen's December 13, 2011 letter to the Mass Water Resources Authority (MWRA) regarding the request to reroute the three mile pipeline rather than have it go through Stoneham. Marcia will draft the letter for review.

9. Open Forum

- Steve noted that Weiss Farm court proceedings have been postponed until April.
- Steve plans to have a draft of our Annual Report for the February 6th meeting. Marcia will find the Heritage award picture as part of the submission.
- Steve reminded us of the upcoming Heritage Award.
- Marcia reported that the fire station floor that slopes to meet the driveway was re-coated by a company that specializes in airport runways.
- Joan mentioned the addition being added to 86 Pleasant Street, likely the real Charles Gill house.
- Joan presented a newspaper clipping about the 1793 smallpox epidemic that killed a number of Stoneham residents including Rev. Cleaveland's wife Abigail, even though she was inoculated.
- The next meeting will be on Monday February 6, 2012 at 7 pm in the Public Library.

The meeting ended at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

January 12, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen. *Excused:* Paul Foley, Tammy Ford.
The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Warrant Article

- Members voted 4-0 (Mr. Rotondi had not yet arrived) to submit a warrant article for the February 7th Town Meeting requesting the release of \$40,000 from the Cemetery Perpetual Care – Income Fund for the development of a Preservation Master Plan for the Old Burying Ground. A grant received from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund will reimburse up to \$20,000 if the project is successfully completed by June 30, 2012. Reimbursed monies will be deposited in the Cemetery Perpetual Care - Income Trust Fund.
- Marcia anticipates invoices for work done in February, March and April so waiting to release the money at May Town meeting is not an option.

2. Fire Station satellite radio dishes

- Members voted 5-0 to oppose the installation of satellite radio dishes on the Fire Station Tower. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has a preservation restriction in perpetuity from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Placement of the dishes in the tower, even if they could be recessed, would be considered a major exterior modification.
- The members were in agreement to support the satellite dishes being attached to the 100' tower that is being installed as a replacement for the existing 80' tower in the DPW yard. The dishes solve a problem with the 911 emergency system.

3. Other business

- Steve announced that the Selectmen no longer need the Commission to write a letter to MWRA given that negotiations are underway to relocate the pipeline. He noted that it is the MWRA's policy to not put promises in writing, hence the lack of documentation on the soccer field over the underground storage tank.
 - Joan reported that her probate research has identified the property at 49 Perkins Street as possibly belonging to Josiah Green and she suggested the marker could say 'Green Farmhouse' or 'Josiah Green' and have a circa date of 1750.
 - Margaret reported delivery of a marker to 8 Gerry Street which has been installed. Due to the 6 month delay, Gamit signs did not charge for the marker. Margaret also delivered a free marker to 198 Franklin St for the "prestidigitator".
 - Steve reported that Donna Weiss is working on a request for information about the Charles Gill house. Marcia will contact Donna about her deed research on 86 Pleasant Street which, according to the 1875 atlas, belonged to C. Gill.
 - Steve announced the joint HS/HC meeting date to be May 17, the HS meeting to be March 15 and April 28 to be Research Day.
 - Steve noted that Marcia's request for tax book research on 3 Morrison Ave is almost complete.
 - The meeting ended at 7:32 pm
- Respectfully submitted,
Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

February 6, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

Present: Tammy Ford, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen. *Excused:* Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley
Guests: Lynda Allard and Becky Jacques

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Guests

Lynda Allard and Becky Jacques discussed the role of their Get A Lift committee at the First Congregational Church. As a church center serving two congregations and the community at large, their goal is to make the facility accessible to all. We discussed grant and fundraising opportunities with them.

2. Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes of January 3 and 12, 2012 were approved

3. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account was approved. Outstanding invoices: \$11 for deed research parking, \$25 NARA research and \$10 8 Morrison Av research at the Historical Society

4. Website

Tammy reported that Tom Cicatelli has agreed to teach her how to use the Virtual Town Hall software for our web page. As part of the new web page, she agreed to create our long awaited "Final Addresses" video to fulfill a requirement for her Public History course at Simmons College. HC members will send her their scripts.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications.
- Margaret reported three markers have been delivered: 8 Highland Ave, 198 Franklin St, and 8 Gerry St. The Almshouse marker is finished and will be presented at a date to be announced.
- Marcia presented a sample vinyl lettered sign that is slightly larger than the current one. Paula Salerno, a sign maker in Holliston, would charge \$95 + shipping. No decision was reached.

6. Burial Ground

- Marcia reported that four proposals were opened on January 30th for the development of a Preservation Master Plan for the OBG. The Selection Committee (Larry Brophy from DPW, Marcia and Margaret from the HC) ranked the proposals and are checking references. They await Mass Historical Commission concurrence with their top choice.
- Marcia reported that Dan Dragani at DPW has been working on a GPS plan of the OBG and it is about 80% complete. The project is on hold because of network and software problems.

- Marcia reported the request for J. Parker Gould's military papers was submitted along with Joan's NARA research on January 26th. The timeframe is 60-90 days and will cost \$25. Steve is considering a dedication on Memorial Day weekend at Lindenwood. Joan has a connection with civil war re-enactors at the Medford Historical Society.
7. Adaptive Reuse
- Marcia noted that the East School sale was completed last week.
 - The North School RFP is in revision and the tentative release date is February 16.
8. New Business
- Steve presented the Annual Report for 2011. Minor edits were made. Marcia will submit the Heritage Award picture to Muriel Doherty.
9. Open Forum
- Steve reminded us of the March 15th meeting at the Historical Society with Ken Gloss

The meeting ended at 8:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

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

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

April 2, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Public Library

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of March 5, 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.

3. Website

- Tammy reported on her May 2 school project to create an OBG video. Dialogues about the founding families will be used to explain the history of early Stoneham. Members agreed to pay for two 16GB flash drives (estimated cost \$30) to record the program.
- Tammy reported starting the web page design and needing help from Tom Cicutelli. Margaret will provide her a copy of the house marker pictures.
- Steve suggested adding pictures of the houses with markers; Margaret noted that she has most of them.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications.
- A presentation will be scheduled for the 1852 Almshouse marker at the Tues June 19 meeting of the Council on Aging.

5. Burial Ground

- Marcia reported that the field work to photograph and inventory the gravestones was completed on March 28 by the stone conservators. This week the data is being loaded to an electronic database. Martha Lyon was at Town Hall on March 15 to gather information from town meeting records and annual reports for the history section of the Preservation Master Plan. The structural engineer is expected on April 11 to evaluate the walls, fences and tombs. Martha may work on the landscape analysis that day or reschedule. The project on on-time.
- Marcia expressed concern that Martha Lyon's request for OBG information from the Historical Society came back with 'no information available'. Marcia has since requested a photo of Rev. Stevens' gate which was stored in the HS by DPW for safe keeping in 2004 and a copy of the 1858 Robert Gerry map.
- Marcia reported that the Master Preservation Plan will likely recommend the removal of the 1941 and 1949 copper caps from gravestones that are determined to be in good shape. She presented a picture of one such gravestone that shows no delamination/splitting and would need the two bolt holes plugged. These installations are outside the period of significance (1726 – 1844 or later) that counts for the National Register listing purposes. No decision was reached about

the disposal of the caps. Members agreed that it would be appropriate to have the gravestones look like they did in the first one hundred or so years.

- Marcia noted that removing the caps would be near the bottom of the list as there will be other gravestones that need immediate attention.
- Steve reported that he will give Mr. Barile the J. Parker Gould military papers soon.

6. Heritage Award

- One letter was received from Mary Canavan of 40 Wright Street nominating Jeanne Craigie. The other nomination, reactivated from last year by Marcia Wengen, was for Bruce Netten. The members voted unanimously to present the award to Bruce Netten for his on-going efforts to restore the historic Mighty Wurlitzer Theatre Organ in Town Hall.

7. Adaptive Reuse

- The RFPs for the 1939 North School and the three lots on Collincote Street generated one proposal on March 27. It was from Stoneham resident Michael Collins for 12 owner occupied condominiums in the North School building and 3 single family houses on Collincote Street. His offer is for \$700,000. He also won the bid to adaptively reuse the 1903 Franklin School in Wakefield for 20 condominiums at a purchase price of \$800,000.
- The Selection Committee will meet to discuss the proposal and make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen on April 3 at 7 pm.

8. New Business

- **Daniel Price:** Steve noted that this project to honor Daniel Price began in 1997 prior to the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor.
- Research suggests that Daniel Price's name does not appear on the Hiker Memorial in front of the Police Station because he was not technically a wartime casualty. Given that he was born Daniel Breslin in 1870 in County Donegal Ireland is unlikely that he was black. Local lore has long suggested that his name was omitted because of his race.
- Military and census records indicate that he immigrated to Stoneham in 1889 and was on the 1890 city directories as living with his brother. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1892 and died in the destruction of the USS Maine on February 15, 1898.
- The members have no objection to a marker being placed on the Hiker Monument in his memory. Maureen Buckley of the Memorial Day Parade Committee invited a Historical Commission member to speak at the services but no one is available.
- **Cell Antenna on Dow Block:** Members agreed to respond under Section 106 of the Historical Preservation Act to the EBI letter of March 21 by requesting: a) photo simulations of the three proposed chimneys, b) that Verizon contract with the same vendor that metro/PCs used for their stealth chimneys and c) that the cantilevered platform for the AC not be attached to the building.
- **12 Tremont Street:** Marcia presented a June 2011 list of 13 vacant buildings. The only building on the State Register of Historic Places is the Patrick Cogan House at 12 Tremont. It is about to be boarded up by the Town with permission from the current owner, Deutsche Bank. Margaret displayed pictures of the other

properties which range from falling apart to being vacant but on the market.
Further discussion is needed.

9. Open Forum

- Marcia noted that the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) corrected the name of STN.16 from Elisha Wright Homestead to Elisha Knight Homestead in May of 2011. The correction has not been made on the National Register listing and Marcia awaits an answer from MHC about who facilitates this change.
- Marcia presented an email from Mark Stevens who is critical of the use of the phrase 'established 1725' on the Town web page and the Police box sign. He says it should be 'incorporated 1725'. Members agreed to notice the town line signed erected by the State to see if they use 'incorporated' or 'established' and report back at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 8:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

May 8, 2012 - Meeting Minutes
Stoneham Senior Center

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Dow Block/Verizon Wireless

- Attorney James Valeriani and Architectural Historian Kathryn Emmitt explained Verizon's revised plans:
 - for two A/C compressors on either side of the bulkhead rather than hung on the building.
 - three faux chimneys 2'x 4'x 10' on the roof (same height as metro/PCS but wider).
- ~For the ZBA meeting on May 31, Attorney Valeriani will have information about Verizon's business relationship with Atlantic Concealment in ME, the faux chimney manufacturer for metro/PCS.
- ~Attorney Valeriani is unwilling to renegotiate the lease with Copley Group that would add a faux chimney on the south east corner of the building to retain the symmetry of chimneys on the roof.
- ~A motion was made and voted 6-0 to review and respond to a summary letter from Kathryn Emmitt before the May 31st Zoning Board of Appeals meeting.

2. Reorganization

- Paul Foley and Marcia Wengen were reappointed for 3 year terms. The officers for 2012-13 are Stephen Rotondi – Chairman, Margaret Warren – Vice Chairman, Joan Quigley – Treasurer, Marcia Wengen – Secretary.

3. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of April 2, 2012 were approved

4. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 minus \$106.49 in expenses leaving a balance of \$278.51 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account was approved.
- Expenses: \$25 research fee to NARA for J. Parker Gould, \$40 Heritage Award, \$10 fee to Historical Society for 3 Morrison Ave house marker, \$16.50 for parking/deed research, \$14.99 for OBG Open House poster.

5. Tidd Gateposts

- Marcia reported attending the April 25 Planning Board meeting at which the ca. 1860 Tidd Gateposts on Hancock Street were discussed as part of the soon-to-be demolished Cambridge Tire Company at 454 Main Street. The Board will issue a special permit for the new building and also request that owner Frank Saia preserve the gateposts and remove the graffiti.
- Marcia presented a draft of a sign explaining the historical significance of the Mr. Tidd' gateposts. The members agreed to hold the \$278 until the June meeting to give Marcia time to explore Mr. Saia's interest in such a sign on his property and determine if he would be willing to pay \$200 or more toward the purchase price.

6. Website

- Tammy reported on her newly designed web page at www.stonehamhistoricalcommission.weebly.com. It has a multimedia tab that currently holds the Middlesex Fells video created by Marina Memmo. Tammy plans to add the OBG video she will create this summer.
- Tammy will be meeting with Tom Cikatelli to consolidate her web page with the Historical Commission's web page on the Stoneham site.

7. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications.
- Joanne's brother-in-law is interested in making his own marker for his ca. 1887 house at 523 Main Street. The Commission applauds his interest but recommends that the marker be different from our design and cannot have "Stoneham Historical Commission" on it.
- A presentation of the 1852 Almshouse marker has been rescheduled to the Council of Aging volunteer luncheon at Bear Hill Country Club on May 15th.

8. Burial Ground

- Marcia reported that the Preservation Master Plan project is on schedule. She presented the stone conservators' summary of gravestones that need attention: a total of 102 with an estimated repair cost of \$54,000 to \$62,300.
- Margaret reported that Marion Towse continues to oppose the use of Perpetual Care funds for OBG work. She understands the need for the project but believes the town should allocate funds rather than taking money from PC. Marcia will research this issue.
- The Town Meeting Warrant identified \$75,000 transferred from the Perpetual Care Income Fund to: 1.) balance the FY '13 budget (\$65K) and 2.) Lindenwood embellishments under Capital Projects (\$10K).
- Marcia distributed flyers for a Walking Tour of Lindenwood Cemetery on Saturday May 19 at 2 pm sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The tour guide is Dee Morris, who also conducts events at Forest Hills and Mount Auburn Cemeteries.

9. Heritage Award

- The presentation is schedule for Tuesday May 22 at 7:01 pm in the Hearing Room at Town Hall.

10. Adaptive Reuse

- May 7, 2012 Town Meeting approved warrant articles for the transfer of the 1939 North School from the School Department to the Selectmen, the sale of North School building on 3+ acres of land to local developer Michael Collins and the rezoning of the school lot from single family homes to condominium units.
- Marcia noted that she is in agreement with Mr. Collins' recommendation to replicate the 1939 windows with Andersen's Architectural Series windows. The simulated divided lites are more like the original windows than windows with imbedded muntins. He plans to install a sample window in the Franklin School in Wakefield and anyone is welcome to look at it. Any photos of the front doors would be appreciated.
- A copy of the preliminary site plan for 195 Collincote Street was distributed.

11. Tremont Street

- No discussion about Patrick Cogan's house at 12 Tremont Street.

12. Old Business

- Mark Stevens criticism of the phrase 'established 1725'
 - Two members observed MA town/city line signs both of which used the word 'incorporated' rather than 'established'.

13. Open Forum

- Marcia distributed a military paper addressed to Dorothea L. Dix regarding six nurses serving during the Civil War at Finley U.S. General Hospital in Washington, DC. One of the nurses listed is Hannah S. Arnold, whom we know by her married name as Hannah Bray (on her gravestone in the OBG).
- Paul Foley questioned if the Historical Commission has oversight of Stoneham Oaks Par 3 golf course which is designated as open space and protected under Article 97 of the state constitution. It could be considered for a different use, provided another parcel of land of the same value is identified for recreational or conservation use and the chapter 97 restriction is lifted by a vote of state legislators and local citizens at Town Meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 4, 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 7:04 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of May 8, 2012 were approved

2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 minus \$106.49 in expenses leaving a balance of \$278.51 in the operating fund and \$1,254 in the donation account was approved.
- Marcia presented a revised bid of \$475 + \$125 installation for an informational sign describing Mr. Tidd's circa 1860 gateposts. Members voted unanimously to encumber the \$278.51 as partial payment for the sign. Options for the balance could be a donation from the property owner or the Commission's 2013 budget. The \$125 can be waived because DPW will install the design with written permission from the owner. The \$278.51 will be used for books if the owner is unwilling to allow a sign on his property.
- Tammy will research the question of donations to the Commission or the Town being tax-deductible.

3. Website

- Tammy reported she will begin filming the OBG video soon. Her emphasis will be on town history; she has research packets on Rev. James Osgood, Capt. Samuel Sprague, Timothy Wright and Jonathan Green. Two other possibilities that Joan researched are Fife Major William Wilson and Army Nurse Hannah Arnold Bray.
- Tammy has not met with Tom Cicatelli yet to consolidate her web page with the Historical Commission's web page on the Stoneham site.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications. 1 is complete (49 Perkins), 1 needs a decision (13 Hersam), 2 need minor research (3 Morrison, 91 Marble) and 1 is difficult because Amos Stone apparently never lived in his land (193 Franklin)
- Steve requested that the photo of the 1852 Almshouse marker presentation be submitted to the newspaper.
- Joanne has heard nothing from her brother-in-law about a marker for his ca. 1887 house at 523 Main Street.

5. Burial Ground

- Marcia reported that the Preservation Master Plan project is on schedule. A meeting with the consultant was held on May 29 to discuss the 90% complete version. The existing seven prioritized projects will be subdivided. For example the first priority is addresses hazardous (7) and unstable gravestones (32). This will be separated into two projects; the first one will be the seven hazardous gravestones + the site preparation of removing nearby trees.

- Jim Previte, Tree Warden, surveyed the OBG and is agreeable to removing 12 of the 27 trees identified by the landscape architect as being invasive (Norway Maples) or showing decay/decline. There are 42 trees plus to 10' "stumps" at the southern edge.
- Marion Towse continues to oppose the use of Perpetual Care funds for OBG work. She understands the need for the project but believes the town should allocate funds rather than taking money from PC. Marcia will research this issue.
- One of the long range projects is to restore Rev Stevens' fence. Steve will check his 1975 slides of the OBG for any fences that might be in the background.
- Marcia will put a request in the newspaper for old OBG photos.
- The Town Meeting Warrant identified \$75,000 transferred from the Perpetual Care Income Fund to: 1.) balance the FY '13 budget (\$65K) and 2.) Lindenwood embellishments under Capital Projects (\$10K). Marcia will discuss with David Ragucci.

6. Heritage Award

- The presentation to Bruce Netten, Town organist, was made on May 22. Bruce and Steve were pictured on the front page of the May 30th *Independent* and Stoneham Patch offered a video of Steve's presentation speech.

7. Tremont Street

- Debi Longo, a local realtor, told Marcia last week that she has had no success reaching Deutsche Bank for access to 12 Tremont. Marcia requested that she let Bee Russo know when/if she does, as Bee knows a developer who may be interested in seeing the house, for a possible renovation.

8. Dow Block/Verizon Wireless

- Marcia attended the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on May 31. Attorney Valeriani presented Verizon's case for telecommunications atop the Dow Building. The members voted 5-0 to write a decision in support of the project by including the May 21 letter signed by Marcia on behalf of the Historical Commission. Mr. Juliano stipulated that if Atlantic Concealment was not an approved Verizon vendor, that the new chimneys must substantially match the existing faux chimneys from a street level view. Before the new chimneys are installed, the ZBA Board members must review the chosen material for compatibility.
- After this install there will be 13 chimneys atop the Dow Block. The ZBA will request an opinion from Town Counsel as to how many chimneys should be allowed.

9. New Business

- Marcia distributed the annual Conflict of Interest Law documentation. Members are required to go on line to complete the training, print out the receipt and send it to the Town Clerk by June 30.
- Marcia distributed the meeting schedule for 2012-2103. It was decided to change September's meeting to Monday the 10th at the Library. Town Day is Sept 15th.
- Members agreed that Marcia should gather information from the Mass Historical Commission regarding the procedure for obtaining an eligibility opinion for listing the 1901/1928 Old Central School to the National Register. Based on the presentation at Historical Commission/Historical Society meeting on May 17 it

appears that a positive eligibility opinion would give a developer access to historic tax credits, thus making the adaptive reuse of the building very attractive. Margaret pointed out that this could potentially increase the purchase price given the savings from the tax credit.

10. Open Forum

- Steve noted that the annual Open House date will be Saturday October 27 from 2-4 pm. It is also the day that the Chamber of Commerce sponsors the Halloween Walk in the Square.
- Tammy is interested in working on an Adopt-A-Grave campaign in the fall.
- Tammy received an informative package of information from the Mass Historical Commission regarding preservation in MA. The cover letter congratulated her on becoming a new member of the HC.
- Paul found a sign for the Shrewsbury Historical Society on page 10 of Tammy's Preservation Planning Manual that used the word 'established'. The question before the HC is the use of the word 'established' on the town web page that Mark Stevens feels should be changed to 'incorporated'.

The meeting ended at 8:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

September 10, 2012 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Presen: Paul Foley, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Margaret Warren, Marcia Wengen.

Excused: Joanne DiMambro, Tammy Ford *Guests:* John Warren, Shelly MacNeill

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of June 4, 2012 were approved

2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$385 in the operating fund and \$1,454 in the donation account was approved. Frank Saia donated \$200 toward the Tidd Gateposts sign. \$270.51 remains encumbered from FY '12 for the sign.

3. Community Preservation Act (CPA)

- John Warren discussed the CPA which would allow Stoneham to create a dedicated fund for open space, historic preservation, community housing and outdoor recreation projects. Property owners pay a surcharge that is matched by the State. If Stoneham votes for a 1% fee, \$40 per year would be added to a tax bill of \$4,000. Currently the match is 40% which adds \$16 to the fund. A new amendment to the Act provides for a State match on local funds that are added such as free cash, mitigation fees or stabilization transfers.
- John will research two questions: can the money be used to purchase historic artifacts (possibly Stoneham's 1891 Amoskeag Fire Engine) and will the Historical Society be allowed to access money in Stoneham's fund?

4. Web Site

- No report.

5. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications. Margaret is working with Ken at Gamit signs on four markers: 49 Perkins, 13A Hersam, 3 Morrison Ave, 91 Marble.
- Marcia reported that Maureen Canova stated that Jason Lewis has been unable to substantiate the 1852 Almshouse as the oldest Massachusetts (or second oldest) building in continuous operation for its original purpose.

6. Burial Ground

- The OBG Preservation Master Plan project is complete. Marcia distributed an executive summary detailing the eleven recommended projects costing \$247,000 to \$267,100.
- Because five of the seven 'priority 1' headstones have been identified as 'hazardous' the Town Administrator is requiring that we identify those stones with yellow caution tape for our October Open House.
- \$38,000 in interest was added to the Town's Perpetual Care Interest Fund on July 1st bringing the total to \$89,000. This is not a funding source for the Plan given that it is annually accessed for \$65-\$75,000 for 'Lindenwood embellishments'.
- The Town Administrator and the Capital Equipment Committee view the gravestone repair as on-going maintenance rather than capital improvement.
- Marcia will work with Dan Dragani at DPW to get cost estimates for eighteen gravestones (seven 'priority 1' and eleven out-of-ground). If the winter is mild, the Town Administrator may be able to 'find' money in the DPW budget for an estimated

\$6,500 - \$10,000. This small amount of money does not require a formal RFP, just three bids.

- 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 members agreed to send a 'no adverse affect' letter on the MetroPCS NE request to add dish antennas on the existing telecommunications facility atop the building at 7 Stonehill Drive.

8. Tidd Gates

- Steve will check on the status of the August 12th request to the Historical Society for scans of Mr. Tidd and his mansion on Main Street for the historical marker.
- Members voted unanimously to release \$200 from the Donation Account as partial payment for the Tidd marker. The balance will come from the encumbered money. Funding of the scans (at least \$60) will come from the \$385 operating budget.
- The Cambridge Tire Building at 454 Main Street has not been demolished yet.

9. Woodland Road Improvements

- Marcia distributed a Sept 6 letter from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) opposing DCR's proposed pedestrian and roadway improvements along Woodland Road. They state that the project is located within the Middlesex Fells Reservation Parkways District which was listed on the National and State Registers in January 2003 and "will result in adverse effects" to the District.
- Given MHC's opposition to the project, members agreed not to respond to the BETA GROUP letter of August 3.
- Marcia will write a letter replying to the MHC invitation to participate in the consultation they requested with DCR per 950 CMR 71.07(3).

10. Adaptive Reuse

- The members voted unanimously to recommend installation of three vents for gas fireplaces in the 1938 East School that involves penetration of the north, east, and south walls of the building. A letter will be sent to the Town Administrator to waive section 4 of the Building Preservation Guideline in the Restrictive Covenant between Stoneham and Beacon Street, LLC.
- The sale of North School has been delayed because the legal notification to surrounding towns was not timely. At the request of the Attorney General's office (AGO) a legal ad will be placed in the Independent on September 12. If no complaints are received in 21 days, it's possible the AGO will approve the zoning change in early October and the sale can move forward. Plan B provides for the warrant article to be re-voted at the October 1 Town Meeting.

11. Open Forum

- Required Conflict of Interest test: Paul Foley submitted his printout. Stephen Rotondi took the test but could not print his receipt. Tammy Ford was absent.
- The next meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday October 2 due to the conflict with Town Meeting.
- Members will meet at 9:15 A.M. on Saturday Sept 15th to set up for Town Day.
- The meeting ended at 8:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary

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

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 3rd 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

STONEHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

December 3, 2012 - Meeting Minutes

Stoneham Public Library

Present: Joanne DiMambro, Paul Foley, Joan Quigley, Stephen Rotondi, Marcia Wengen.

Excused: Tammy Ford, Margaret Warren

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes of November 5, 2012 were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's report of \$350.47 in the operating fund and \$1,526 in the donation account was approved. \$278.51 remains encumbered from FY '12 for the Tidd sign.

3. Web Site

- No report.

4. Historic House Marker Program

- There are no new applications. Joanne will send an application to the owner of 79 Hancock Street. She will speak with her brother-in-law about a marker for 523 Main Street.
- Margaret informed Marcia by email that four markers have been delivered: 49 Perkins, 13A Hersam, 3 Morrison Ave, 91 Marble but delivered to Wilson Road.
- Marcia reported that the owner of 3 Morrison has asked if the sign can be hung in the porch near the front door. Steve reiterated that the owner may use her/her discretion although the Commission would prefer that the sign be visible from the street.

5. Burial Ground

- Tammy reported by email that the OBG video "Final Addresses" is complete but not available because her son did not bring home his computer at Thanksgiving. The showing is rescheduled to the January meeting.
- Marcia reported that she is working with Dan Dragani, Senior Engineer at DPW, on a packet of information to secure three quotes on 18-20 OBG gravestone repairs. Town Administrator Ragucci requested quotations in the unlikely event that there is DPW money available due to a mild winter.
- Steve noted that Linda Corapi knows of grants that may be available, especially for tree removal. Marcia will follow-up.
- The Peter Green Jr. tomb door was returned on October 12th to the OBG. Because the lower hinge strap broke in April when the tomb was open for the structural engineer, it had to be arc welded shut until such time as there are funds to restore it properly. The lockset was repaired and is currently locked. The key is with the locksmith and Marcia needs to return it to DPW.
- Steve will reschedule his appointment with Ralph Barile regarding the marker for J. Parker Gould.

6. Tidd Gates

- Marcia has heard nothing from Mary Marchant at the Historical Society.
- The Cambridge Tire Building at 454 Main Street has not been demolished yet.

7. Community Preservation Act (CPA)

- Marcia has had no response from two emails to John Warren regarding the next steps for the CPA. Joan offered to contact him.
 - Marcia reported about a November 23rd meeting at Ms. Colarusso's (member of the Finance and Advisory Board) house to form a 'citizens against taxation community group'. Ms. Colarusso stated that a number of senior citizens asked her to convene the meeting. Marcia requested to join the meeting to defend the CPA but Ms. Colarusso politely refused her admittance.
 - Marcia noted that she had done some exploratory planning regarding a CPA discussion with the Stoneham Housing Authority without approval from John Warren. She noted that the last day to register to vote is March 13 so the clock is ticking.
 - Members agreed to postpone the vote on the CPA until all the Board members are present. After lengthy discussion about the pros and cons, a straw poll was taken indicating 3 members in favor, 1 opposed and 1 undecided.
 - If the CPA question fails to pass at the April election, Steve suggested adding Community Preservation as one of the voluntary contributions of the tax bill. Marcia will follow-up. Steve also noted that there will be a windfall of income to the town from developments on Fallon Road, Nazareth Academy, and Franklin Street.
8. New Business
- The annual report is due in January. Steve will prepare a draft to include the Heritage Award, the OBG Preservation Plan, the Section 106 letters, etc.
9. Open Forum
- Marcia attended the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on November 29 at which the attorney for Verizon wireless presented a sample of the fiberglass panel from Duro Fiber Company in Hudson NH. The ZBA approved the sample for the Dow Block installation with the caveat that Verizon maintain/paint the panels as needed. The installation is expected to be live by the end of this month.
 - Joan reminded the members of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission's program 'Treasures in the Attic'. Margaret forwarded an email to all on November 6. The Historical Commission has no artifacts. The possibility of submitting Marina Memmo's *Baltimore Riot* presentation was suggested. We will discuss again next month.

The meeting ended at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Wengen, Secretary