



Chelmsford Historical Commission (CHC)

February 8, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance: Deb Taverna-Chairman, Brian Stripp-Vice Chairman, Fred Merriam, Jeffrey Merrill, David Vigeant, Linda Prescott

Ms. Taverna called the meeting to order, 7:04 PM

1. **Public Input:** None

2. **Pre-Demolition Requests:**

117 Gorham Street- no one present to speak

191 Chelmsford Street- Gale Bentley and Brian Dowd

Application for demolition discussed. The inventory has been done; questions answered. **MOTION:** Ms. Prescott moved to approve the application for demolition of 191 Chelmsford Street, seconded by Mr. Merriam and so voted. Motion carried. Ms. Taverna will bring the paperwork to Town Office on February 9, 2022.

3. **House Signs, National Register Signs, District House Signs:**

Mr. Stripp noted that he has had requests for signs for

7 Ripley Street

96 Middlesex Street- already in the works

190 North Road

22 Brick Kiln Road

4. **Historic District Updates:** Ms. Taverna shared that the HDC were following the progress on the Odd Fellows Building, reviewing standards, and working on roof top mechanics being covered (an ongoing issue). It was noted that the Fiske House was on the agenda for the Planning Board.

5. **Community Preservation Updates:** Ms. Prescott noted that there had been some projects approved; North and Central Town Hall's ventilation upgrades to meet

current building codes. The DPW is replacing the Varney Playground playground area, and working on the handicapped ramp. Center School's playground and the legal fees for Warren Property are also on the warrant.

6. **Cub Scout Tour of Forefathers Burying Ground:** Ms. Prescott noted that there had been no communication from the scouts, but she has spoken to Mr. Boyle; Cemetery Superintendent, and he has approved the gravestone rubbings but cautioned that it shouldn't become a regular habit. Mr. Boyle also noted that there really were no projects for the scouts to do.
7. **1802 School House Shutters and Toll House Maintenance:** Ms. Taverna noted that there were some water spots on the ceiling and no heat in the schoolhouse in January. Some discussion around the types of repairs that should be done with the shutters. Ms. Taverna asked if the Commission would like a cabinet refitted to cover the wires and such in the Toll House. A consensus was made that this was a good thing.
8. **Riverneck Road Development:** Ms. Taverna asked if the commission should weigh in on the controversy surrounding this project. After some discussion on both sides, it was decided that individually members should "weigh in".
9. **Budget-** no change- clerks salary was paid.
10. **Emails, Telephone Calls, Letters:**
 - An email was received from Becky Warren regarding the Manning Manse house- the roof needs to be replaced and it should be done in wood as in the original house. Ms. Warren will be working with the Manning Manse people.
 - 7 Third Street would like to add a second floor and 2 car garage- is this under the CHC? Only if there is partial demolition. The Commission is inviting the owners to the next meeting.
 - 48 Concord Road: putting solar panels on the roof
 - School House- All Saints Church used the building, back in the day as a Bible School! All Saints members did a walk through in January as part of a program on the history of the All Saints. It would be nice to have the history from All Saints Church re, the use of the School House.
11. **Local Certified Government:** Ms. Prescott explained she had taken a workshop and found that the Application is not too difficult to do. The commission

members should submit resumes with what skills they possess and how they fit. The District Commission and the Historic Commission should meet 1 or 2 times per year. The CHC should list achievements and goals. Ms. Prescott asked each member to submit a resume for the LCG application.

12. Historic Preservation-What Can We Do? Ms. Prescott noted that there were workshops available. She attended the Conversation on the Common; many ideas for involving the younger generations were shared.

13. 4 Bartlett Street Inventory Update: Ms. Taverna noted that the inventory that was done needs to be redone as it has missing information. Several corrections are needed on the inventory on file. Ms. Prescott noted that she would contact Mass Historic.

14. Approval of Minutes

- **MOTION:** Mr. Merriam moved to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022, as written seconded by Mr. Merrill, and so voted. **Motion carries.**

15. Set Agenda for March 8, 2022

Mr. Merrill shared a newspaper book from the 1800's, Ms. Taverna will take the book

MOTION: Mr. Stripp moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Merriam and so voted.

Ms. Taverna closed the meeting at 8:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Judy A. Metz, Clerk