



Chelmsford Historical Commission (CHC)

Virtual Meeting, online due to Covid-19

June 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance: Deb Taverna-Chairman, Brian Stripp-Vice Chairman, Fred Merriam, Linda Prescott, Jeffrey Merrill, Will Arvidson, Deidre Connolly-Planning Board Liaison

Ms. Taverna called the meeting to order, 7:34 PM

1. **Public Input:** None

2. **Pre-Demolition Requests:**

- a. 314 Dunstable Road- No representative present. Ms. Prescott noted that the house looked like a standard raised ranch and an inventory may not be needed. Mr. Merriam noted that the Commission should not give the go ahead until this was checked for sure. The house was shared on the screen and it seemed there were modifications done over the years. The date noted in the records was 1900. Ms. Taverna advised that the inventory be done.
- b. 35 Princeton Street-North Fire Station-There was some confusion regarding the need for a signature. Mr. Merriam provided a signature, with help from Mr. Stripp. The issue has been sorted out and no signature was needed.

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

Mr. Stripp noted that he has delivered the signs for;

47 North Road	89 Dunstable Road
83 Dunstable Road	85 Dunstable Road
1 Plum Street	35 Middlesex Street
58 Church Street	

Mr. Stripp explained that there were only 4 blank signs left, therefore he has placed an order for 20 new blank signs, from Ould Colony Artisans-Robert Leonard. The price has gone up about \$5.00 each. Ms. Taverna asked what the total cost for the sign is. \$83.50. Mr. Stripp noted that he has submitted the invoice for the 7 delivered signs. This may go over budget. Ms. Prescott explained that the cost could be rolled over to the next year budget cycle.

Mr. Merrill asked what kind of wood was used, pine. He then noted that the next time signs need to be ordered, he can do this.

4. **Budget:** At present there is \$78.64 for salary, Ms. Taverna noted that there was \$794.00 remaining, but with the new order we will be over budget.

5. **Emails, Telephone Calls, Letters:**

- Ms. Prescott had received a call from Rebecca Markey regarding the date on her house. Ms. Prescott noted that she was able to clear up the confusion.

6. **Historic Preservation-What Can We Do**

- Ms. Taverna asked Mr. Arvidson if he had the brochure for new homeowners, he will be working on this soon.
- Ms. Prescott noted she had sent the members copies of the town tours.
- Mr. Merriam explained he had been working with Lisa Marrone and that the paper maps may be a thing of the past. He is working with a phone app that will be able to show pictures and have a little talk to go with it when the cell phone is within a GPS “geo-fenced” area. Mr. Merriam asked the commission if it was something he should pursue and draw up a proposal. He noted that it is very time consuming, but that there are many historic sites in Chelmsford with great stories. Mr. Stripp asked if there was some way to track the usage to be sure it is cost effective. Mr. Stripp also volunteered to help with the “talks”. Mr. Merriam will send the members a draft of the proposal.

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7. **Review Demolition Delay Bylaw working Change**

Ms. Taverna reported the section in the bylaw referring to Demolition by Neglect should be revised. She asked that members review this and plan to discuss at the July Meeting.

Mr. Stripp sent to the members Ideas for building public support. He noted that the Commission have a few but that there were some others to be accomplished, most notably, Certified Local Government. Ms. Taverna noted that she has some of the paperwork started and will revisit for the meeting in July.

8. **Planning for Discussion with the Building Department:**

- Mr. Jose Negron, Building Inspector will be invited to the next meeting. Plan for discussion with him. Discussion surrounding whether to meet in person. Ms. Taverna will reserve a room for July. It could be a hybrid if the room is set up for it. She will contact Mr. Negron and if he is more comfortable with Zoom we will continue with Zoom otherwise it will be in person.

9. Approval of Minutes

- MOTION: Mr. Merriam moved to accept the May 11, 2021 minutes with corrections, seconded by Ms. Prescott and so voted. 2 abstentions.

10. Set Agenda for July 13, 2021

Discussion for Building Dept.

314 Dunstable Road

Historic Preservation

Discussion with Mr. Negrón

Demolition by neglect

Mr. Merriam's proposal

Mr. Arvidson's brochure

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

Ms. Taverna closed the meeting at 8:24 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy A. Metz, Clerk