



Municipal Building – Town of Franklin
355 East Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

Town of Franklin, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes April 21, 2009

Attending:

Commissioners:

Del Arnold
Alan Earls
Mona Ghiringhelli
Debbie Pellegrini
Bob Percy
Alice Vendetti

Visiting:

Dianne Brunner

Meeting Minutes

The Commission approved the last meeting's minutes, from 3/17/09.

Commission members are welcome to check the Commission's mail box at the Town Offices, and to notify Commission members of any timely issues before the next meeting.

Finances

We have no new bills. Current balance -- \$1844.36.

Obtaining 501 (c) 3 Status

Mona plans to meet with Herb Hunter to discuss the details of this effort.

Commission Membership

We are once again pleased to have Dianne Brunner attend and observe this months meeting.

New Business

Four Corners Site

Brona Simon of the Massachusetts Historical Commission acknowledged in writing her receipt of the Memorandum of Agreement we sent her that outlines the compensatory measures we will have taken regarding the Four Corners School.

Attending this month's meeting as part of the Four Corners site project:

Sandy Worcester -- Photo specialist and member of Southboro Hist Comm, who wrote a historical description of the Four Corners School. She took many wonderful pictures of the school, and will provide her written description and photos to the Historical Commission in hardcopy and online form.

Doug Benoit – Arista Development

Richard Cornetta – Attorney

New details about the compensatory measures:

- Recordation, to provide photographic documentation of the existing structure: This is what Sandy W. is providing.
- Post-demolition salvage of the school's cupola, if possible: The cupola measures 4' x 6' x 12'. Del will ask the DPW whether we can have the cupola moved to a DPW controlled site.
- Creation of an interpretive plaque at the site. The Commission has now decided to have a freestanding interpretive plaque at the site of the new Walgreens to commemorate the Four Corners School (rather than a plaque outside the entranceway).

Refurbishing the Museum (80 West Central St.)

- The Town has made preliminary estimates for this work. These have tended to be high.
- We may want to consider using doors from the Four Corners School demolition (slated for June '09) for use in the new museum, perhaps for the library section in the southeast corner.
- To lower costs, we discussed doing without new clapboards on some sections of the exterior of the new museum
- We need to change the sign at the old museum to notify people of the location of the new museum.



Museum Inventory

Mona and Dianne continue to work on inventory, including categorizing photos by decade. Later we can also categorize by theme (people, schools, and so on).

A new copier is available and needs a home. The Commission voted to acquire this important resource for the museum.

Housing Rehab Requests -- None

Demolition Requests – None

Research Requests – None

Correspondence

We received information from MHC about Preservation Month, in which they inquired whether we are celebrating it. Del may obtain more information from MHC about this and forward it to Commission members as necessary.

We received information from EBI Consulting of Burlington, MA who is managing the project of constructing a new telecommunications tower on the grounds of the new fire station at 40 West Central St. Bob will draft a letter of reply saying that the Commission has no objections to this project.

Downtown Partnership and Related Items

There are currently openings in the downtown partnership. Meetings are 3rd Thursday of the month at Dean College. Del A. is currently on the Board of Directors.

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