Town of Franklin Massachusetts

Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes November 18, 2020

Due to Covid restrictions the meeting was held via Zoom

Commission Members Present: Randy LaRosa, Paul Pisani, Colette Ferguson, Phyllis Malcolm, Richard Remillard.

FFHM rep: Paula Vozella

Guest: Brad Chaffee, Camford Property Group

Minutes of the October 14, 2020 were accepted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Brad Chaffee came before the commission to discuss his project at 94 East Central Street. After the presentation at the September meeting, Chaffee came back to ensure the commission gave its support of the project. Although the commission normally would only be involved in demolition requests, the commission agreed that it approved of the proposed project at 94 East Central which proposes to preserve th.e historically significant Lewis R. Whittaker home. A home on the historic register.

APPOINTMENTS: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

DEMOLITION REQUESTS: None

FFHM Report: $174 were made in the gift shop the previous weekend. Paula asked about upcoming events and asked that we promote that there are many new items in the gift shop exclusively sold at the museum.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

* Phyllis asked that any receipts be submitted for reimbursements
* Archivist update:
  + Rebecca was recently ordered to self-quarantine until further notice.
  + Jim’s exhibit was moved into the front room on Monday 11/16. He is very excited about it.
  + Due to the new indoor restrictions, the building capacity is 10. We can have 7 visitors at any given time.
  + Pull Sheets: For the safety and security of the collections materials in the Museum, it is imperative that we know where everything is at all times. Since not everything is digitally catalogues, pull sheets are the best way to attain this goal. I have placed colored coded sheets of paper in the basement for us to use to show where materials are if they have been removed from their boxes – red is pulled for research, orange is pulled for exhibit purposes, yellow is on loan, and green is pulled for conservation. Once the materials have been returned to their homes, the sheets can be removed and saved for future use.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Johnston Donation update – The Clara Johnston Room has been installed as of Monday 11/16/20. We would like to do a grand opening for the exhibit, but will hold off until after the covid restrictions have been relaxed.
* CPA update – The CPA passed on the November ballot. A member of the commission is to be nominated to participate on the committee. More details to follow.

NEW BUSINESS:

* FDP has asked that the museum participate in Light Up Downtown Franklin and Beyond. A member of the FDP is working with the DPW to see if this is possible.
* Vintage Fire Truck will be on display at the museum on 11/21, the museum will not be open
* Franklin TV – Johnston exhibit, Chris Flynn to set up date and time.
* Should SSSS be live streamed – it will be considered for 2021

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

* Please include date on contract tracing sheet. Hosts should ensure that they sign in, when entering the back of the museum, and should answer all questions the questionnaire, as well as recording their temperature. Be sure thermometer is on ‘F’ rather that ‘C’
* Paul thanked Phyllis and Collette for their work on the CPA campaign.
* Phyllis said that John Shippe would like the historic commission to submit information for a historical plaque at the former Thomson Press location. Mary agreed to provide the information.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:21PM