

APPROVED MINUTES

Members

Samuel D. Obar, Chair
Christine M. Cochrane, Vice Chair
Mark G. Almeda
George B. Ransom
Roger F. Turner, Jr.
Kathleen A. Birtwell, Associate
Melissa Totten, Associate



Walpole Historical Commission

Walpole Town Hall
135 School Street
Walpole, MA 02081

A meeting of the Walpole Historical Commission was held on February 16, 2017 at the Walpole Town Hall, Room 116.

The following members were in attendance:

Samuel D. Obar, Regular Member, Chair
Christine M. Cochrane, Regular Member, Vice Chair
George B. Ransom, Regular Member

The following members were not in attendance:

Mark G. Almeda, Regular Member
Kathleen A Birtwell, Associate Member
Roger F. Turner, Jr., Regular Member
Melissa Totten, Associate Member

The following guests were in attendance:

None.

Chairman Sam Obar called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He notes that because several members are absent, this will be an abbreviated meeting.

- **Mass. Historical Commission Workshop**

The workshop on the Demolition Delay Bylaw has been confirmed for March 16, 2017 at the senior center. Mr. Obar would like to work with Melissa Totten to send out letters to area Historical Commissions.

- **Historical Commission Budget**

Mr. Obar went before the Finance Committee on Saturday, February 11, to request \$1,266.00 for a secretary. The Finance Committee directed the Town Administrator to determine if there is a way to hire someone, potentially through the senior work-off program, to serve as a secretary to multiple town boards that do not currently have secretaries. It is not known if this will be addressed for the upcoming fiscal year or if it will be a future fiscal year.

- **Old Town Hall**

Mrs. Cochrane still has not heard anything about the proposed Town Hall re-use committee. She has compiled a folder of information related to Old Town Hall.

- **Goals for 2017**

This agenda item was put off to the next meeting when the entire Commission will be present.

- **Barn Survey**

Mr. Ransom will give a talk at the library next week about barns in Walpole. It is hoped that the Commission will undertake a town-wide barn survey this year.

- **Registry of Deeds Profiles of Walpole people**

Mr. Obar provided some edits to Mr. Ransom of his profiles, he will submit the profiles of Bradford Lewis, Henry Plimpton Kendall, and Charles S. Bird to the Register of Deeds as those do not have edits and are complete. If other Commissioners wish to submit profiles, they are welcome to do so.

- **Union Station**

The Secretary of Transportation has not responded to the Commission's request for her participation in a ceremony at Union Station to recognize its placement on the National Register of Historic Places. This also means no plaque can be put there. The Commission will stop pursuing the idea of doing a ceremony and installing a plaque, for the time being.

- **1641 Washington Street**

The Commission received a demolition application for 1641 Washington Street. A site visit will be scheduled for February 25, with a meeting to follow to determine architectural/historical significance. The ZBA also granted a special permit for this site with a condition that the Historical Commission provide guidance on the appearance of the new structure.

- **General Updates and Other**

Mrs. Cochrane said she thought the Historical Huddle in Plainville sounds like a great event to attend.

Mrs. Cochrane mentioned that 234 Stone Street might soon be slated for demolition. The Assessor Database states it is more than 100 years old.

- **Meeting Minutes**

This agenda item was put off to the next meeting when the entire Commission will be present.

Mr. Ransom makes a Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mrs. Cochrane seconds the Motion.

The motion passed 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourns at 7:26 pm.