

Approved on 6/22/17

Members

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



Walpole Historical Commission

Walpole Town Hall
135 School Street
Walpole, MA 02081

<http://www.walpole-ma.gov/walpole-historical-commission>

A meeting of the Walpole Historical Commission was held on May 25, 2017 at the Walpole Town Hall, Room 116

The following members were in attendance:

Samuel Obar, Regular Member, Chair
Christine Cochrane, Regular Member, Vice Chair
Roger Turner, Regular Member
George Ransom, Regular Meeting
Kathleen Birtwell, Regular Member
Melissa Totten, Associate Member

The following guests were in attendance:

Joe Verderber
Emily Conrad

Chairman Sam Obar called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Appointments

388 North Street - Demolition Application

A site visit is set up for 6/1/17 at 6pm to view the structure and property at 388 North Street. After the site visit a meeting is set for 7pm at the Deacon Willard Lewis House on West Street to determine if the structure is architecturally or historically significant. Mr. Verderber leaves the meeting at 7:25pm.

Correspondence

Mr. Obar reports receiving a confirmation of receipt from the MHC regarding Roger Turner's nomination from this HC for their Annual Preservation Awards that will take place in September 2017.

Old Business/Updates

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Barn Survey

George Ransom gives an update on the barn survey. He reports more work needs to be done regarding connecting addresses to names of owners. Specific dates need to be researched since many barns are just dated 1900. Next step is a mailing with a follow up visit to the willing barn owners. Mr. Ransom also reports that he has finished up taping a barn presentation for Walpole Cable and it will be airing soon.

MHC Seminar - Demo Delay Bylaw

Mr. Obar reports the seminar was well done and the presenter, Chris Skelly, was very good. The seminar was well attended and the Board feels the HC should sponsor more.

Christine Cochrane asks the members who attended the seminar if there was any useful information to aid in updating Walpole's current bylaw? The HC discusses the Demo Delay Bylaw and feels the HC needs to continue talking about updating/rewriting it.

Historic Huddle

Mr. Obar reports there was a presentation on having "Scanning Days." The Community Preservation Act was also discussed. Roger Turner states this has been before Walpole TM in the past but was rejected. Mr. Obar is opposed to it because it is a tax and has been abused by other communities in the past.

Re-Use Committee

Christine Cochrane reports sub committees have been established to research different topics regarding the Old Town Hall Structure. She also states there will be a Public Forum meeting of the Re-Use Committee on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at the Walpole Public Library beginning at 6pm and encourages all HC members to attend.

Walpole Day Historic Bus Tour

Melissa Totten said she enjoyed the tour although it was fast and suggested a map handout for riders on the tour next time. Mr. Obar recognizes and thanks Mr. Ransom for a job well done as tour guide. Mr. Obar also reports he only received positive feedback about the tour.

Approval of Minutes - 4/20/17

Mr. Turner makes a motion to approve the minutes of 4/20/17. Mrs. Cochrane seconds the motion.

The motion is approved 4-0-1.

Adjournment

At 8:32pm Mr. Turner makes a motion to adjourn. Mr. Obar seconds the motion.

The motion is approved 5-0-0.