

Cohasset Historical Commission Minutes of Meeting April 4th, 2022

Members present: Jacqueline Dormitzer, Mark St. Onge, Julia Gleason, Noel Collins, Merle Brown, Megan Elder

The meeting was called to order at 7:02.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Determination of Historical Significance for CPC

Criteria for Evaluating Historical Significance

Determination of Historical Significance of Paul Pratt Library Building

The group reviewed both the definition of historical significance as defined by the Community Preservation Act and the criteria for evaluation of historical significance as defined by the National Register. Michelle Leary, Procurement and Contracts Manager for the town, presented to the Commission the need for a new rubber membrane on the roof of the Paul Pratt Library building. A designation from the Historical Commission holds the same strength as a designation from the National Register in regards to receiving CPC funding. The Historical Commission voted that indeed, the Paul Pratt Library building has historical significance and should therefore be able to use CPC funding for the roof repair.

Update on Lion's Den Research/Quonahassit Winter Village Sign

Jackie shared with the group "before and "after" pictures of the Lion's Den. Noel recently discussed the Lion's Den with Bob Healy and Bob spoke in great detail about a subterranean cave in the rocks. Given that Lion's Den has never been properly surveyed, this cave is likely to still exist. Noel sent a letter to the property homeowners the first week of March expressing a desire for the Commission to be in contact but he has not yet received a response. Next steps are to contact Town Manager, Chris Senior, requesting that a second letter be sent from him to the homeowners again expressing the desire to be in touch regarding Lion's Den.

Another possible location worthy of a sign is the Quonahassit Winter Village site in Beechwood. Next steps are to connect with Lilly Sestito - property owner where the sign would be located - about the plan.

It was suggested that we may want to include the input of someone of Native American descent on our sign language.

Update on Historical Commission Brochure

The brochure work continues to move forward. Strides were made in the past couple of weeks and the Commission should soon have text ready to review.

Update on National Register Listing for Cohasset Savings Bank

After receiving confirmation from the bank President, work to list the bank on the National Register will continue. Jackie has copies of the blueprint from 1898 to help support the submission. She will also return to the bank to take additional pictures of the floor of the first floor in an attempt to revise the NR submission.

Proposed Changes to Government Island and Lawrence Wharves

There is a proposed conveyor system for Lawrence Wharf or Government Island Wharf to aid lobstermen in pulling up their lobster pots. There is concern about the aesthetics and impact of this system. The Commission discussed having Tim Davis speak to the Commission but the Commission decided that at this time, when the final project is not yet firm, Tim does not need to present more information to the Commission on the proposed system.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Elder, Secretary