

Cohasset Historical Commission Minutes of Meeting March 8th, 2021, Zoom Meeting

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm.

Report of Liaison to MPIC

Julia was asked to explain what interest the Historical Commission had, in particular, with the MPIC. Julia shared that the Historical Commission is interested in the harbor development project, to which she was told to get in touch with the Harbor Commission - which the Commission has already done. The MPIC did mention that the demo delay bylaw may still happen. Julia shared with the group that the Commission was working on a Historical Commission booklet, which the MPIC was pleased to hear.

Update on Historical Commission Brochure

The sub-committee met over Zoom last week where the primary sections of the booklet were continued to be refined. The group now has a good sense for the key sections which will be shared with the Commission in coming weeks. Next steps are to finalize that outline and to then determine who will write what sections, and which sections already have existing content written-up. Megan asked the group to think about what interesting, but less-highlighted, aspects of town could be included in the Fun Facts section.

The rough timing for completion is end-of-year. Megan to confirm if end-of-year was in reference to the town's fiscal year (ending in June), or calendar year. Jackie mentioned that she used printingcenterUSA.com for past work and had a good experience. They have templates we could use to help lay out the project. Booklet committee to look into this vendor.

Update on Cohasset Savings Bank Application to MHC

Jackie has been working with Betsy Friedberg of the Massachusetts Historical Commission on the process and paperwork needed to determine eligibility for the National Register. Because the work done by David Wadsworth is now 20 years old, work essentially needs to start over because much would have changed in that time. Jackie has been doing research to add detail and expand upon the work started by Mr. Wadsworth. She has also been in touch with Larry Corthell, managing director of the bank, to get pictures taken of the space. Larry took pictures of the interior; Jackie took pictures of the exterior. Jackie to discuss with Larry what major alterations have been done. From there, Jackie can send the completed form to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Jackie to share with the group prior to send.

Another significant part to NR application is the architectural description. Jackie plans to use a few personal architecture books to aid, but the application requires great detail. The Commission is considering hiring a consultant to help.

It was mentioned that Hingham has one single committee to oversee all of Hingham's various historic districts. Cohasset Commission to keep this on the radar; we may consider this approach in the future as discussions continue on potential historic districts.

Captain's Walk Project

There is a 3/9 Selectmen meeting during which the Harbor Improvement project will be discussed. Jackie encouraged the Commission to join the Zoom to better understand how viable the plan is to renovate the harbor area. If it seems that it won't move forward, the Commission should consider going ahead and renovating pieces ourselves. It's really a matter of *when*, not *if*, to improve as the area does need to be restored.

Unanticipated Business

The Sestito family bought an old store across the street from Merle's home. The plan is to keep half as a general store and to open a J.J.'s Ice Cream on the other end. The plan is to keep it as similar to its original state as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Megan Elder, Secretary