



# Attleboro Historical Commission

Government Center – 77 Park Street  
Attleboro, Massachusetts, 02703



Minutes – March 9, 2020

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**Regular Members:** Marian Wrightington (Chair), Brian French, Bette Fuller, Rachel Killion, Brian Ludwig, Jerry Raposa

**Alternate Members:** Brian Hatch, Bill Lewis, Jerry Turcotte, Len Yutkins, Chris Frappier

**Guest:** none

Bill Lewis acting as Regular Member in vacant position

Meeting called to order by Chair, Marian Wrightington at 6:36 PM

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion made by Bette Fuller to accept the minutes from the February 10, 2020 meeting with correction. Seconded by Bill Lewis. Passed unanimously.
- Correction: Jerry Raposa was absent for the February 10, 2020 meeting.

## REPORTS

**Attleboro Historic Preservation Society** – March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Literacy Center has been moved to Friday, March 20 due to scheduling conflict. House Tour in June; still looking for more houses.

**Schoolhouse Conditions** – Muggsville: John Manning waiting to talk to building inspector; but Bill McDonough has not heard from John yet.

**Zoning and Planning Notices** – 61 Thurber Ave. building a Buddhist temple, planning to restore farmhouse.

**Attleboro Land Trust** – Programs planned: Geocaching 101 for kids (April 11) at Attleboro Springs; Flower Show (March 19-22) at Art Museum; Earth Day (April 18) at Briggs Nursery; school vacation (April) planting trees at Larson Woods; 10 Mile River cleanup (May 2); Geo Alliance creating time capsule.

**Burial Grounds** – to be checked on.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Switch Tower** – MBTA came back with a bid to put a new roof on – it was astronomical. On hold, no money.

**Wolfenden Smokestack Replica** – Still waiting for weather to improve to apply anti-graffiti coating and light installation. Waiting to hear from Derek on sign.

**Preservation Plan Request** – on hold for now.

**Preservation Awards** – Planned for May 11, 2020 at City Hall, 7:00 PM, Rachel and Brian are working on contacting recipients and awards.

**Depot Canopy** – reached out to Ron Morgan- GATRA is still moving forward, in contact with MBTA and he is cautiously optimistic.

**Donation Form** – received reworded document from city (see document). Question posed: Are we exempt from the City process of disposing of AHC property? Brian F. will check with Richard Conti.

**Pleasant Street Rocks** – land around has been sold and is not Caponigro's, now owned by Amy Lambert.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Membership** – Members up for renewal have sent letters to the Mayor but have not heard back yet.

**Academy Grant Meeting** – A special meeting was held on February 20, 2020: only 1 bid was received from original posting and it was very high; so it was put out for re-bid.

**Postcards** – AHC office has boxes of City postcards; What should we do with them? Sell at Farmer's Market? AAIM buys some, may want more? Chris will look into creating new postcards.

**Trundle Bed** – a trundle bed from the Rev. Peter Thacher house (333 S. Main St.) was donated to the AHC years ago. Marian will ask the current owners if they are interested in having the bed on loan while they are living there, with the understanding it reverts to AHC when they sell the property.

**Old High School** – Marian and Brian F. reached out to City Councilors about concern over demolition and façade restrictions. Councilors mentioned the Historical Commission at their council meeting and are keeping the restrictions for now.

## **CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION**

801 West St. (house recently demolished); the barn associated with the property is being cleaned out and they found a headstone for Hannah Woodward b. 1700 – d. 1777. Research is being done to try to return the headstone. They have applied for a demolition permit and the contractor is planning to salvage as much of the beams and boards as possible. Will ask if we can photo document the barn before demolition.

- A motion was made by Brian French that after documenting the site, we OK the demolition permit given that the boards and beams are going to be salvaged. Seconded by Brian Ludwig. Passed unanimously.

Letter send to Winn Development

Thank you received from Tom Walsh for research Marian did to help with former family property on South St. (now part of Attleboro Housing Authority).

Bill Lewis asked if we had any projects for Attleboro High School – School to Career program over the summer.

Next Meeting – **April 13, 2020**

Adjournment – 8:22 PM