



Westfield Historical Commission

Minutes for May 16, 2016

Westfield City Hall / Room 201

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WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

Present: Kate Deviny, Carly Bannish, Cindy Gaylord, Walt Fogg, Danny Nason, Amanda Goodheart

Public participation:

- Rick Gaylord: As moderator of the First Congregational Church, Rick asked the Commission to think about several questions: Where does the city think the church is going? What could the church do to help the WHC? What do we think of when we hear "First Church"? How might the community use the church?

Secretary's Report:

Amanda moved to accept the secretary's report.

Kate seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mailings:

- Karen Kiaer- She would like to have a memorial stone made in memory of John and May Ingersoll. We would like a few more details (type of stone, type of lettering, etc.). Cindy will contact her.
- Notice of the 54th Pioneer Valley Planning Commission on June 9th.
- Notice of the Massachusetts History Conference- June 13th
- Notice of the Glacial Lake Hitchcock and Its Primal Inhabitants Conference- June 18th

Old Business:

- Bullens Field Update: Cindy and Walt met with Dan Genovese and decided on the locations of the plaques. Westfield Technical Academy will install them and put up a protective covering around the original wooden sign. The ticket booth was taken down due to safety issues but will be replaced with a new booth using portions of the old one that were saved.
- OBG Update: Community Clean-Up date is June 4th from 10:00-2:00. Amanda moved to purchase four more sprayers for the event. Kate seconded the motion. Motion passed. Open Gate Day will be June 11th from 11:00-2:00. Cindy's fifth grade students will sell cookies and lemonade as well as dress up and portray those buried in the OBG.

- Old Schoolhouse Stove Update: Received the bill to restore the stove. Kate moved to pay the bill. Amanda seconded it. Motion passed.
- Irving Slavid: Irving has sent a proposal to the commission proposing to level two base units and reset the two Taylor tabletops as well as resetting 5 hazardous and unstable stones. He is available to do this work in July. Carly moved to accept the proposal. Amanda seconded it. Motion passed.
- Historic Properties Update: Amanda will distribute the criteria to commissioners. Commission decided to place an announcement in the press about adding properties to list, encouraging people to check our current list. Benefits to homeowners will be listed (address common concerns) and we will ask homeowners to nominate their properties for consideration. Amanda will write up a press release.

New Business:

- Winchell Dam signature: We were requested to sign another document allowing a portion of the Dam to be demolished as the first signed document was lost.
- Ghost Tours Dates and Update: Tours will occur the last weekend in September. Discussed the possibility of having two consecutive tours on the hour and half hour. Cindy will check possibility with Jay Pagluica.
- Yellowstone House: Owners would like to designate the farm as historic. Walt is meeting with the owners to discuss history of the property.

Amanda moved to adjourn. Kate seconded the motion. Motion passed. We adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Our next meeting is Monday, June 20, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Carly Bannish, Secretary