

## Historical Commission Meeting Minutes -- Approved

DATE: July 20, 2020

TIME: 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: Zoom Virtual Meeting

FOR: Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marilyn Bisiewicz, Malcolm Fick, Don Howe, Paul Ivory, Gary Leveille, David Rutstein

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Bill Nappo

### **PAUL IVORY CHAIRMAN**

1. Mr. Ivory called the meeting to order as a virtual meeting authorized by the Governor's March 15, 2020 order.
2. Mr. Levielle moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2019 meeting. Mr. Fick seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.
3. Mr. Ivory nominated Mr. Fick to be Chairman of the Commission. No other nominations were offered. Mr. Fick was elected by unanimous vote.

### **MALCOLM FICK CHAIRMAN**

4. FY21 Work Plan and Budget
  - a. Archivist – Mr. Levielle and Mr. Fick will discuss FY21 work with Bernie Drew for continuing work on the Lost Great Barrington material and cataloging.
  - b. Archival Supplies – There is no immediate need for additional supplies. Further needs will surface as archival work continues.
  - c. Newsboy Conservation – There is an annual contract for preservation of the statue, which should be set up for Spring 2021. Mr. Levielle reported that we are still waiting for the 2020 report.
  - d. Walking Tour Brochure – A new brochure will be needed for Spring 2021, perhaps coordinated with changes currently under way by the Historic District Commission for the brochure tour distributed at Town Hall.
5. CPA Project
  - a. Trolley Shelter Restoration – Mr. Howe reported that the requested \$60,000 funding was cut to \$50,000 which was approved by Town Meeting. The funds cut may affect signage, including CPA acknowledgement and interpretive signage. Additional funding may be need to be requested for next CPA cycle. Mr. Howe will follow up with the town

- regarding scheduling and contracting. At Mr. Levielle's question about fund timing, Mr. Howe will discuss at the next CPC meeting.
- b. Downtown Housatonic Inventory Forms – Mr. Howe reported that the same issues and actions impact this project as the Trolley Shelter project.
  - c. FY2022 projects – Mr. Howe suggested that we revive applications for FY2022 that were cut from this fiscal year's funding. Applications are due in November, 2020. These and other potential requests will be discussed at the next Commission meeting.
6. Mr. Ivory commended Mr. Drew, Mr. Levielle and Ms. Bisiewicz on the development and distribution of the Great Barrington Lost Research book. Mr. Ivory, Mr. Levielle and Mr. Fick will meet with Mr. Drew to discuss the best methods of using the materials to promote historical interest in Great Barrington. Mr. Levielle said he would be returning comments to Mr. Drew by August 1, 2020 and encouraged other members to do likewise. Mr. Fick said that an agenda item will be added for the next meeting to discuss this topic and steps that the Commission should take.
  7. Mr. Levielle reported that the plantings at the Town's Newsboy Park are a "giant mess" and seriously detract from the investment the Town is making to maintain the statue. In particular, the junipers surrounding the statue are not being maintained and are dominated by weeds that make parts of the statue inaccessible. Mr. Fick will contact the Town to discuss how the park can be better maintained.
  8. Mr. Ivory reported that he has many digital images that he has taken that should be archived in digital and/or printed form. Mr. Levielle will work with Mr. Ivory on this project.
  9. There were no non-members present, thus no citizen's speak.
  10. There was no other business.
  11. The next meeting date was set for September 14 at a time of 5:00pm to allow for potential outdoor in-person meeting. Mr. Fick will explore the possibility of conducting the meeting at the Senior Center, Historical Society, Town Hall Gazebo or other outdoor facility. If this is not feasible a virtual zoom meeting will again be conducted.
  12. Having concluded its business, Mr. Fick adjourned without objection.

Respectfully submitted,  
Malcolm Fick  
Chairman