

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS



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GREAT BARRINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes from November 18th 2021
Town Hall 6:30 pm via Zoom

Attendees-

Donald Howe, Chair
James Mercer, Vice-Chair
Abby Schroeder, Secretary
Fred Clark, Member

Not Present- Marilyn Bisiewicz, Alternate; Bill Nappo, Alternate

REGULAR MEETING

Meeting called to order at 6:35 by Chair Howe with a Roll Call of Attendees.

Meeting Notes for the May 20th 2021 and July 15th Regular Meeting were not reviewed.

PUBLIC HEARING

FCC Manse- Public Hearing was the Application by the First Congregational Church for the Repair/Replacement of the Stone Façade Walls of the Manse with a focus on the North Walls along Pleasant Street and the West Walls along Main Street. All the Exterior Stone Walls of the Manse need restoration and repair with several sections showing possible evidence of structural damage.

Motion by Abby Schroeder to open the public hearing with a second by James Mercer. Motion passed by a roll call vote with Howe, Mercer, Schroeder and Clark all voting in favor.

Steve McAlister of Clark and Green, Inc. presented the application for the First Congregational Church. Architectural drawings were presented showing the proposed work.

Motion by Abby Schroeder to close the public hearing with a second by James Mercer. Motion passed by a roll call vote with Howe, Mercer, Schroeder and Clark all voting in favor.

Members noted that the Church had been diligent in dealing with the Stone on all their buildings with installing soft mortar where hard mortar had been installed over many years causing many issues. The southerly section of the Garden Stone walls will have repairs completed and new cap stones as part of this project matching the recently completed Northerly section.

Motion by Fred Clark to approve the Application as Appropriate based upon the Owners' previous track record that they would easily implement this reasonable and well thought out scope of work. wall.

Motion was then seconded by James Mercer. Motion passed by a roll call vote with Howe, Mercer, Schroeder and Clark all voting in favor with none opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

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Walking Tour Brochures and Holders- Holders have been installed in Town Hall and the Libraries.

NEW BUSINESS

Pedestrian Tunnel and Kiosk- Chair Howe noted that CPA/CPC will be reviewing an application by the Town to study repairs necessary to the Kiosk and adjoining areas of the Pedestrian Tunnel.

Searles Castle Wall Repair- Chair Howe noted that repairs were underway to a limited section of the perimeter stone wall along Main Street. This work will not require a building permit.

David Grover- Abby Schroeder presented her thoughts on recognition for David Grover's Contribution to the Town with the Saturday Summer Concerts since July 5th 1987. Abby felt that the Bandstand at Town Hall would be the focus. Jim Mercer noted that Steve Bannon as Chair of the Selectboard should be contacted initially by Abby. All present supported the proposal of an event during the next 4th of July 2022 weekend.

OTHER BUSINESS

NONE

Next Meeting- Next HDC Meeting will be the Regular Meeting December 16th 2021 at 6:30pm.

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 pm by James Mercer unless there is any objection with a second by Fred Clark.

Respectfully submitted by,

Donald V. Howe, Chair
April-25-2022