

Historical Commission Meeting Minutes -- Approved

DATE: January 25, 2021

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: Zoom Virtual Meeting

FOR: Regular Meeting

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

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Bill Nappo

1. Chairman Fick called the meeting to order as a virtual meeting authorized by the Governor's March 15, 2020 order. A roll-call was conducted to determine members present.
2. Mr. Leveille moved to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2020 meeting. Mr. Rutstein seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.
3. Mr. Fick informed the commission that no budgeted FY21 funds have yet been used.
4. CPA Update
 - Mr. Howe reported that there were no status updates on the Trolley Shelter Restoration or Downtown Housatonic Inventory CPA projects.
 - FY22 CPA projects – Mr. Howe reported that the CPC approved the funding of the Historical Commission Inventory project request and that it will now be forwarded to the Selectboard and Town Meeting following a Public Hearing.
5. Monument Mills support letter
 - Mr. Fick reported that another letter was sent in support of Monument Mills request for additional historical tax credits. He reported that there is no update on the status of the project besides a brief communication indicating that progress has been delayed by the pandemic.
6. Great Barrington Lost Research Project – Mr. Fick reported that the J.B. Kaplan Fund Furthermore Grant may be restricted to 501(c)3 corporations. If the Historical Commission is not eligible or does not receive a grant, funding may be available in partnership with the Historical Society or by using archiving funds from the 2021 budget. Mr. Leveille reported that he is more than half way through another round of edits. The main title of the resulting publication will be *Great Barrington Here and Gone*.
7. Newsboy Landscape Recommendations – Mr. Fick reported that he still has to send Mr. Leveille's list to the Town for action. Mr. Fick will coordinate with Mr. Ivory the necessary

communications with Daedelus for annual cleaning and inspection. Mr. Leveille and Mr. Ivory will check to ensure that we received the report from Daedelus following the Spring 2020 work.

8. Historical Walking Tour Update – Mr. Fick reported that he has received expressions of interest in other organizations to add tours to the HC app. There are also updates needed for the Historical Walking Tour. All members volunteered to help with these updates. A list of potential changes will be presented at the next meeting so that an updated version will be available for the next tour season.
9. Other Member Issues/New Business
 - Ms. Bisiewicz asked if anyone had information the status of the Searles High School hotel project. Nobody had any specific information except for rumors of the change in design.
 - Mr. Ed Abrahams, attending as a member of the public, said he would ask.
10. There were no other comments from the public.
11. The next meeting date was set for March 8, 2021 at 5:00pm.
12. Having concluded its business, Mr. Fick adjourned without objection.

Respectfully submitted,
Malcolm Fick
Chairman