

**Minutes**  
**Longmeadow Historical Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 16, 2020**  
**7:30 pm, at the Fire Station Meeting Room**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm.

In attendance: Maggy Cohn, Dave Marinelli, Steve Weiss, Tim Casey, and guests, Al and Betsy McKee  
Minutes from December 2019, were approved.

**Old Business**

North Longmeadow Street Intersection Improvements – according to Dave, no new news on a public hearing. While we still do not have a Town Engineer, an engineering firm has been hired for this project.

Old Train Station –Tim reached out to Amherst regarding their interest in the Station. They agreed that the estimate to ‘rehabilitate’ the building was quite high. Tim has also sent the estimate to the Big E to see if they would be interested in taking the building when it becomes available.

Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey of Pre-1901 Structures –Heritage Consultants are working on Phase 2 which is due February 7, 2020.

Note: Per Betsy McKee, when this project is completed, the Historical Society plans to redesign their Star program (the colored Stars on historically significant buildings) using updated information.

CPC – approved the 2 applications under Historical Significance: 1. Replace the roof of the Library, and 2. Additional funds for the current project of replacing the roof and gutters of the Community House.

Modifications to Demolition Delay By-laws – Tim Casey has sent his suggested modifications to Town Counsel for review. When they are returned, Michelle Steiger will present them to the Demolition Delay Committee for approval. If there are no further changes, they will be put on the Warrant for the May Town Meeting. Note; the new by-laws will require a plan for the disposition of any excess building materials generated by a deconstruction and/or demolition project.

**New Business**

Al and Betsy McKee presented the results of the recent LIDAR project conducted at the Longmeadow Cemetery. They discovered that the common story of the realignment of the headstones in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century is not as drastic as we have been led to believe. Most of the headstones have stayed with their respective bodies, perhaps just moved from one end of the plot to the other end, while most of the footstones have been removed. These adjustments were made to allow the creation of pathways through the cemetery. They also discovered that a number of bodies were buried without head or foot stones. This raises the question of whether or not to use some more invasive methods to further investigate who these unidentified church members might have been. A community dialogue regarding how to be respectful of the remains, yet determine who and why they are in that particular place would be very helpful.

Sandra Krein has nominated the Brewer- Young Mansion Restoration and Adaptive Reuse project for a 2020 MHC Preservation Award. She will need a letter from us supporting this nomination. We agreed to write such a letter.

Some up-coming presentations at the Library: Ian Delahante’ – March 30, at 6:30 pm, Slavery in the Connecticut River Valley, Charles Mann in May regarding the effects of 1492 and 1493 on North America (referencing his books titled these years). Reminder, Beth Hoff will be presenting Discoveries from past Census’ on February 18, at 6:30 pm.

Our next Meeting will be February 13, 2020, at 7:30 pm.

*The mission of the Longmeadow Historical Commission is to identify, preserve and educate the Town about its unique heritage.*

We adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret Cohn, Chair  
Longmeadow Historical Commission