

MINUTES
Longmeadow Historical Commission Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2018
7:00 pm, in the Longmeadow Public Library

In Attendance: Maggy Cohn, Steve Weiss, Barbara Fitzgerald, Tim Casey, Dave Marinelli, Jeff Spear

Guest - Lisa Bennett

Meeting called to order 7:05

Minutes from January meeting approved

Old Business

Brewer –Young House

Zoning approved at special town meeting by ⅔ vote. Maggy made a strong presentation representing the Historical Commission's position.

Taking this topic off future agendas until further notice.

Demolition Delay Committee

Annual meeting of the Demolition Delay Committee was delayed due to inclement weather. New date is March 5th.

Maggy has been in communication with Debbie House for advice on getting letter mailed to owners of pre-1901 homes. Debbie forwarded Maggy's questions to Stephen Crane.

Assessors List has been updated so we should review it before we mail letters.

Old Train Station - Amherst Railroad Society

Slate roof in pretty good shape. Original outside wood siding is still there. The Amherst group is still interested in this building. It was suggested that the Commission should tour the building in the next few months.

Collaboration with East Longmeadow – 125 years since our split

Steve has been trying to contact the East Longmeadow Historical Society but has not been successful to date. Steve suggested that the Commission consider planning something to recognize this event.

Community Preservation Committee – status of applications

Nine applications submitted. An application for an architectural study for the old train station was approved with a request by the Town Manager that the Demolition Delay Committee do a pre-investigation of the property to determine the historic significance of the building.

Supreme Judicial Court has not issued a decision on the case before it concerning the use of CPA money for work on church property in Acton, MA. This contributed to the decision by the Longmeadow CPC to not approve the First Church applications at this time.

Records Management – responsibilities and practices

Steve will follow up on this

Tom Higgins and his book about Longmeadow

Arcadia Publishing is the publisher. Probably will not be ready for Longmeadowe Days.

Annual Town Report – Historical Commission Contribution:

Historical Commission Annual Report – 2017

To the Honorable Select Board:

The mission of the Longmeadow Historical Commission is to identify, preserve, and educate the Town about its unique heritage. The purpose of the Longmeadow Historical Commission is to plan and implement programs for the identification, evaluation, preservation and protection of Longmeadow's historic places. The Historical Commission works in an advisory capacity to other town commissions and boards to ensure that historic preservation is considered in planning for future Longmeadow development.

Over the past year the Longmeadow Historical Commission has:

- Collaborated with the Historical Society and Storrs Library to present a talk by Alan Banks from the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site,
- Presented the Planning Board and the Select Board with our updated publication, Areas of Historical Interest in Longmeadow,
- As a result of the Commission's identification of the Old Train Station as being of Historical Interest, the DPW has requested (and received) a CPA grant to obtain an architectural study of the feasibility of preserving the station,
- Expressed to the Planning Board and at Town Meeting our support for rezoning the Brewer-Young property from residential to professional,
- Exercised the Demolition Delay Bylaw procedures regarding the demolition of a building at 822 Longmeadow Street.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Cohn, Chair
Barbara Fitzgerald, Secretary
Elizabeth Hoff
Dave Marinelli
Steve Weiss
Tim Casey

Response to Hayes letter

We have not received any additional communication from Mr. & Mrs. Hayes so we conclude that the questions raised were adequately answered.

New Business

None

Next Meeting, March 15 at 7:00 at the library.

Adjourned at 7:45