

Longmeadow Historical Commission Minutes

April 21, 2011

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

The Longmeadow Historical Commission met on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at the Longmeadow Fire Station. Present were: Susan Hall, Chris Hall, Beth Hoff, Andrew Lam, Steve Weiss, Tim McKenna and Michelle Steger. President Beth Hoff convened the meeting at 7:34 P.M.

1. Minutes from previous meetings

Motions were made to approve the minutes from the Historical Commission meetings held on December 16, 2010 and January 20, 2011. The minutes for both meetings were unanimously approved.

2. Old Business

a. Community Preservation Act projects

The Historical Commission took advisory votes in favor of four articles in the Town Meeting Warrant that are relevant to the Historical Commission. The following articles were unanimously endorsed by the Historical Commission:

ARTICLE 15.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$50,000, or a greater or lesser sum, to fund the Community Preservation Project to restore and preserve the town historical records to be funded from the Community Preservation Historical Fund

balance; including of Phase 2 of restoration and preservation of Town Marriage, Birth, and Death indexes and including commencement of Phase 1 of preservation of tax assessment records and the purchase of a microfiche reader, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$75,000, or a greater or lesser sum, to fund the Community Preservation Project to rehabilitate the Community House by replacing approximately one half of the windows, funded from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund balance: prior to funding the following conditions must be met:

- a. The Town will explore opportunities for alternative sources of funding or for rebates based on possible energy savings.
- b. Window frames will be made of durable, low maintenance products.
- c. Replacement windows must be approved by the Historic District Commission prior to installation, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$250,000, or a greater or lesser sum, to fund the Community Preservation Project to rehabilitate Center School by replacing the single pane windows at Center School from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund balance; the windows are to be replaced with a durable, low maintenance energy efficient product which must be approved by the Historic District

Commission prior to installation, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$25,000, or a greater or lesser sum, to fund the Community Preservation Project to rehabilitate the Community House by replacing eight doors at the Community House from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund balance: the doors are to be replaced with a durable, low maintenance energy efficient product which must be approved by the Historic District Commission prior to installation, or take any other action relative thereto.

b. Expansion of the Historic District

An informational session was held on Tuesday, April 12 for homeowners who are eligible to join the Green Historic District. Eleven families attended the meeting. Chris Hall gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the advantages of joining the Historic District. Susan Hall, Andrew Lam, Karen Lazeration and Denise Collins were also present in order to answer any questions or concerns from the attendees. Letters are being mailed to each of the families in attendance asking them to notify Susan, Andrew or Denise of their intentions to join the Historic District by May 15, 2011. Another informational session will be held to discuss the next steps in the process of joining the Historic District once it becomes clear how many homeowners are interested in pursuing this option.

c. Demolition Delay Committee

Beth and Susan will make an appointment to meet with Robin Crosbie in the near future to discuss issues pertaining to this committee.

d. Open Space Task Force

Beth is a part of this task force and mentioned that a survey seeking to gauge preferences regarding the use of open space in Longmeadow is available at longmeadow.org.

3. New Business

a. Warrant Article 22- potential repeal of CPC

Beth reported that the Select Board voted to put Article 22, which urges the Town to remove its support of the Community Preservation Act (CPA), on the Town Warrant. Motions were made to take an advisory vote opposing Article 22. By a unanimous vote, the Historical Commission opposes Article 22 which states the following:

ARTICLE 22.

To see if the Town will vote to repeal Chapter 44B, sections 3-7, also known as the Community Preservation Act, by rescinding

Article 41 of the April 25, 2006 town meeting, by which town meeting adopted the Act, or take any other action relative thereto.

Additionally, Steve mentioned that he will most likely speak at the Town Meeting about the importance of CPA funds to Longmeadow, and Beth mentioned that she would write a letter to the editor of the Longmeadow News in support of the CPA.

b. Other New Business

No additional new business at this time.

4. The next meeting date will be Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 7:30 PM at the Fire Station.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Steger

Secretary