

Longmeadow Historical Commission Minutes - September 16, 2010

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, September 16, 2010, at the Fire Station. Present were: Chris Hall, Susan Hall, Steve Weiss, Beth Hoff and Michelle Steger. Also present was Denise Collins who is a member of the Historic District Commission. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

1. Minutes from the May 20, 2010 meeting: Motion was made to accept the minutes and was unanimously approved.
2. LHC Membership: Andrew Lam was interviewed and approved by the Select Board and will be joining the Historical Commission in approximately four weeks. The following positions were determined for 2010-2011:
 - a. Chair: Beth Hoff
 - b. Secretary: Michelle Steger
 - c. Community Preservation Commission Rep: Steve Weiss
 - d. Demolition Delay Committee Reps (2): Steve Weiss and Michelle Steger
3. Old Business:
 - a. Expansion of the Historic District: Susan Hall proposed that she and Denise Collins collaborate to begin taking the necessary steps to incorporate into the Historic District the seven homes that have been identified and whose owners have indicated a desire to become part of the District. Denise Collins agreed to collaborate with Susan on this project as well as facilitate communication between the homeowners and HDC. Susan also suggested that an official meeting be called sometime in the fall that involves all of the owners of the houses that will be a part of the proposal in order to get the ball rolling. It was agreed that the target date for the completion of this project be the spring 2011 Town Meeting.
 - b. Community Preservation Acts Projects: Susan Hall expressed concern that the work that has begun on the Community House and

Center School has not yet been approved by the HDC. Michelle Steger said that she had been in touch with Karen Lazeration, Chairperson of the HDC, about this and was told by Karen that the work that has begun does not have to be approved by the HDC at this point in time as they are repainting the windows the same color. Michelle was told by Karen Lazeration that other work on those buildings would require the approval of the HDC. Susan suggested that it would be a good idea to e-mail Mike Wrabel and Robin Crosbie to remind them that a Certificate of Appropriateness needs to be issued by the HDC before changes can be made to buildings in the District.

Future options for using CPA funds were also discussed. Susan suggested that digitizing important Town documents to ensure that they are preserved would be a great use of future funds. It was also mentioned that restoring the headstones and grave markers at the Longmeadow Cemetery would be a productive use of CPA funds. It was suggested that Brewster Sturtevant be contacted about having the Longmeadow Cemetery Association submit an application to obtain CPA funds to begin restoration of the cemetery.

4. New Business

- Open Meeting Law revisions: Beth Hoff distributed a hand-out to everyone entitled "Top Ten Changes to Watch for in the New Open Meeting Law "

5. Meeting dates: Our next meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Steger
Secretary