

Meeting Minutes
Longmeadow Historical Commission
Thursday, April 14, 2022

The Longmeadow Historical Commission met on April 14, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Present from the HC were: Tim Casey, Maggy Cohn, Dave Marinelli, Tom King, Steve Weiss, Jerrold Duquette and Bret Lukezic.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM

The minutes from the March 17, 2022 meeting were approved with minor alterations for grammar.

1. Old Business

a. North Longmeadow Street Intersection Improvements

i. No update

b. Pre-1901 Survey by Heritage Consulting

i. Storage Location for Surveys

1. Peter Stott of the MHC informed Tim and Maggy that the surveys should be available on the MACRIS website within 3-6 months. We will withhold further distributing the CD and digital copies of the surveys until the issue with 2 Ardsley Road is resolved.

ii. 2 Ardsley Road issue

1. Maggy and Tim have been in contact with Peter Stott of the Massachusetts Historical Commission to ensure that the correct information about this house is put into MACRIS. Peter informed Maggy and Tim that he had drafted a continuation sheet with the information that was provided in the 1974 Annual Town report. Before MHC can add the continuation to correct the survey, they want the LHC to find out who the original owner of the house was and how he came to own the property.
2. Beth Hoff did some research and stated that the original owner could have been a Nathan Ely but was unable to find any definitive information that placed him in Longmeadow in 1870.
3. Peter Stott stated that he believes the 1974 Annual Report is incorrect in regards to the name of the original owner

(Nathaniel C. Ely) and the original owner of the lot the house sits on was Ethan C. Ely. He noted that no house is mentioned in the deed transfer between Ely and the next owner of the property Patrick Lee so we are not certain if Ely built the house as the area is not included on the 1870 map of town. At Dave's suggestion, we will need to look at the assessor's records from 1870 on in order to determine when the house was built. Once we have the answer of who built the house and when, MHC will update their file for MACRIS and upload based on the order that it was received.

c. Historical Society

- i. No update.

d. Eversource

- i. As of late February Eversource has stated that their preferred route would run through the North Longmeadow Street National Register Historic District and their secondary preferred route would run through the Green Historic District.
- ii. Betsy McKee told Tim that she saw contractors for Eversource marking underground pipes and utility lines in the Historic District.
- iii. Tim also stated that Jonathan Jordan, who is a member of the Historic District Commission, related at their last meeting that he spoke with someone claiming to be working for Eversource that said that their preferred route would run through the Historic District.
- iv. Tim stated that he planned to speak at the next Select Board meeting about the subject. He also suggested that the Historical Commission and the Historic District Commission should reach out to the US Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for assistance. This group would potentially be able to assist in advocating on our behalf with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission if they were to make any decisions on the pipeline.
- v. Multiple commission members related differing experiences with Eversource/Columbia Gas some positive and some negative.
- vi. Dave stated that it might not be worth using the town's resources to fight the pipeline no matter where it goes since Eversource owns the right of way on the street because there is an already existing pipeline there.
- vii. Jerrold pointed out that Eversource needs the permission of the Select Board to work on their own equipment so this might not be completely accurate.

- viii. Tim added that while it may be highly unlikely that resisting the pipeline would be successful, he thought it would be worth it because he could not have it on his conscience if he gave up fighting and then a historic building was lost or worse someone's life.
 - ix. Dave reminded the group that this issue is far from black and white and that gas infrastructure reliability is important for electricity production and is a necessary part of the transition to green energy.
 - x. Tim stated that while he understands that there is a need for a gas pipeline, the pipeline should be as far away from people and historic resources as possible and potentially having it run through the much more sparsely populated land down by the Connecticut River would be better even if that is conservation land.
 - e. Updated Historic Preservation Plan
 - i. After much discussion, the HC agreed to defer this discussion until after the CLG application has been completed. Tim and Tom will work with Jenn Doherty at MHC to come up with a plan for creating the Plan for Historic Preservation and investigate the possibility of hiring a consultant to work on the plan with us and then report back in September with more information.
 - f. Certified Local Government
 - i. Tim and Tom reported that all resumes had been received but one. Tom reported that he plans to submit the application at the end of next week after the last resume is received and he has had a chance to proofread it. Tim stated that we should aim to have the application completed and approved by 6/30/22 because that is when committee terms expire which could make the application no longer accurate. Tom stated that he believed we would not need to have a joint meeting with the HDC if our application was approved ahead of 6/30/2022.
 - g. Letters to Williams Middle School and Marty O'Shea
 - i. Maggy has yet to write the letters but will by the end of the month
2. New Business
- a. Mailbox
 - i. There was nothing in the mailbox
 - b. Town Business
 - i. Town meeting is 5/10/2022
 - c. On 3/31/22 the CPC attended a Finance Committee meeting where the Finance Committee recommended all historic related articles for approval at Town Meeting

3. Next Meeting May 19, 2022 via Zoom at 7:00 P.M. Maggy will inquire about having a meeting at the Adult Center.
4. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 P.M.