

HARTFORD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Roy Black, Robin Adair Logan, Pat Stark and chair Jonathan Schechtman.

Staff Present: Town Planner Matt Osborn.

Others Present: Selectboard Liaison Dennis Brown and Town Manager Leo Pullar.

A meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was held in Room 2, Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, WRJ on Wednesday, September 19, 2018. Chair Jonathan Schechtman called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

1. Additions/Changes to the Agenda: Jonathan Schechtman asked if there are any additions to the agenda. Robin Adair Logan requested that the Christ the Redeemer Church be added to the agenda. The HHPC agreed.
2. Minutes of the August 15th HHPC Meeting: Jonathan Schechtman asked if there are any corrections to the Minutes of August 15th. Robin Adair Logan noted corrections. Pat Stark made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 18th with the noted corrections. The motion was seconded by Roy Black and approved.
3. Shining A Light: Matt Osborn reported that he received a cost estimate from Sarah Pelkey of Landworks for the lights used for the Shining A Light event this spring. Three lights were used, the cost of which is \$400 each. The HHPC agreed that this is something the Commission should pursue.
4. HHPC Budget: Matt Osborn presented the current fiscal year 2018/2019 HHPC Budget which covers the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019:

• Travel & Meetings	\$200
• Advertising	\$250
• <u>Grants & Appropriations</u>	<u>\$2,200</u>
• Total	\$2,650

Matt Osborn noted that the HHPC received an increase in the budget this fiscal year, but noted that the current budget doesn't provide funds for items such as historic district signs or lights for Shining A Light. He suggested creating a new line item. He asked Selectboard Liaison Dennis Brown if that is something that the Selectboard might support. Dennis responded as long as there is a good reason for it. At this time, Town Manager Leo Pullar dropped in to the meeting. He was asked the same question and responded that it was a reasonable request. There was discussion. Pat Stark made a motion to recommend the following budget for fiscal year 2019/2020 to Planning and Development Services Director Lori Hirshfield that included a new line for historic district signs.

• Travel & Meetings	\$200
• Advertising	\$250
• Historic District Signs/Lights	\$400
• <u>Grants & Appropriations</u>	<u>\$2,200</u>
• Total	\$3,050

The motion was seconded by Roy Black and approved 4 to 0.

5. Cemetery Research/Oral History Project: Matt Osborn reported that he is working on a Request for Proposals for the CG project. He is reading minutes of the Town Cemetery Committee to help articulate the Committee's research needs. Matt will distribute a draft of the RFP to the HHPC next week with release of the RFP the following week.
6. Public Outreach and Education: Matt Osborn reported that he sent out a request for information about public outreach and education to the newly created Vermont CLG Listserve. He noted that he received three responses. Ideas included a history hunt, walking tours, fire safety for historic buildings workshop, historic preservation skills training, publishing historic photos and asking people to identify the buildings. He noted that there are methods that can be done with little or no cost and other projects that require funding. Matt distributed information about "This Place Matters", a program from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He suggested that the HHPC review the program information for future discussion.
7. Annual CLG Grant Application: Matt Osborn noted that the annual CLG grant application is due in December so the HHPC needs to come up with a project by November. In addition to public outreach and education, there are historic district nominations that the HHPC can pursue.
8. Town Plan Update: Matt Osborn reported that he is working on the introduction to the Town Plan that will be presented at the 9/24 Town Plan Steering Committee meeting. He also noted that he will be beginning work on revisions to the historic resources chapter next week. Matt stated that he will be working with Pat Stark and Robin Adair Logan.
9. Quechee Gorge Bridge Safety Fencing: Matt Osborn reported that the Quechee Gorge Bridge temporary fencing will be installed beginning later this month and will be completed by October 26th. Work will take place weekdays only and the project will be shut down from noon on Thursday, October 4 through Monday October 8th to avoid the long Columbus Day holiday weekend. Flaggers will be used and traffic will be limited to one lane on the bridge and one sidewalk will be open at all times during construction.
10. White River Junction Design Review Workshop: Matt Osborn reported that the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and Historic New England have teamed up to sponsor a design review workshop at the Hotel Coolidge September 21st and 22nd. He noted that Robin Adair Logan, Roy Black, Zoning Administrator Jo-Ann Ells and he will be attending. He also noted that Lori Hirshfield and Denise Welch May will be presenting.
11. Christ the Redeemer Church: Robin Adair Logan reported that repairs to the Christ the Redeemer Church steeple and roof in Quechee have been completed. She noted that the work was done by Southgate Steeplejacks of Barre, Vermont, a highly respected contractor. She stated that they did an excellent job and that the work was done in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior standards for Rehabilitation. Jonathan Schechtman agreed that the work was well-done and noted that the original Church architect (Thomas Silloway of Boston) also designed the Vermont state capital building. Robin Adair reported that she wrote a letter to the Church pastor complimenting them for repairing the roof and steeple and doing an excellent job.
12. Next HHPC Meeting: Jonathan Schechtman noted that the next HHPC Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 17th.
13. Adjournment: Pat Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jonathan Schechtman and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.