



Attleboro Historical Commission

Government Center – 77 Park Street
Attleboro, Massachusetts, 02703



Minutes – February 10, 2020

Regular Members: Marian Wrightington (Chair), Brian French, Bette Fuller, Rachel Killion, Brian Ludwig, Jerry Raposa

Alternate Members: Brian Hatch, Bill Lewis, Jerry Turcotte, Len Yutkins

Guest: none

Len Yutkins acting as Regular Member in place of Vic Bonneville (absent)

Meeting called to order by Chair, Marian Wrightington at 6:32 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion made by Bette Fuller to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2020 meeting with correction. Seconded by Jerry Raposa. Passed unanimously.
- Correction: spelling of Jerry Raposa's name (~~Rapsea~~) in motion to accept December 9, 2019 minutes.

REPORTS

Attleboro Historic Preservation Society – St. John's church in February 20th. Winterfest will be at AAIM. March 19th at the Literacy Center. House Tour in June; still looking for more houses.

Schoolhouse Conditions – District 17: good. Muggsville: John Manning, from local carpenters union, is still hoping to get Consigli Construction to donate materials or money. He has some red cedar but also looking at composite shingles. What should the aesthetic look be?

- Motion made by Rachel Killion that the Muggsville school repair subcommittee is authorized to make decisions regarding the school repairs. Seconded by Brian Ludwig. Passed unanimously.

Zoning and Planning Notices – 868 Pleasant Street, Cooper House, has more stakes out; not sure of house status. City has been unable to find a buyer for Country Street High School and the building and is in danger of being torn down. Attending a "Committee of the Whole" meeting was discussed but Marian will contact all the councilors. We should compile of list of possible uses for the building.

Attleboro Land Trust – ALT has acquired land off of Bishop Street they are hoping to connect to Steere Street property. New sign on Riverbank Road has room for some historical text. ALT will be celebrating 30th anniversary, possible celebration in June. They did not get the Sensata grant for the garage, but looking into reapplying for boardwalks. Bill will be putting together some ALT information for Barrows Farm to use as a link on the AHC page on the City's website. It was also suggested we add the AHPS Facebook page as a link. Geocache Revolutionary War Adventure is up and running.

Burial Grounds – Peck cemetery had branches down and trash.

OLD BUSINESS

Switch Tower – MHC letter for Switch Tower National Register eligibility is too old. Wheaton students will be working to get an updated letter of eligibility.

Wolfenden Smokestack Replica – Waiting for weather to improve to apply anti-graffiti coating. Jeff said the lighting we proposed should be OK. Waiting to hear from Derek on sign.

Preservation Plan Request – Marian submitted a letter to the Sun Chronicle "Voice of the Public" (as suggested by the Mayor) that prompted three published letters of support from Ellen Parker, Ted Moxham and John Buchanan.

Preservation Awards – Rachel and Brian are meeting to discuss the nominations and organizing the event. Walter Stitt was nominated for his work during Inside Uptown - writing an extensive history of the library and for leading tours during the program.

Depot Canopy – nothing new to present, Brian F. will call again.

Donation Form – sent to city solicitor but have not heard back yet.

Pleasant Street Rocks – Book by Curtiss Hoffman, *Stone Prayers*, is now in the library collection. George Spatcher was contacted and recalled that a Cooper family member built it for the kids to play in.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership – Members up for renewal have sent letters to the Mayor but have not heard back yet. Vic Bonneville has asked to resign as a Regular Member, but would like to remain on the Committee as an Alternate Member. Bill Lewis agreed to fill his vacancy as a Regular Member if the Mayor agrees; Marian will contact the Mayor.

Silva Gallery – Sara Chaloux is current artist; Bob Mangiarotti might be interested in having his work displayed.

Senior Center – an anonymous person reported that the Larson Senior Center may be torn down?

Ingraham Factory - Ryan Cameron, MacRostie Historic Advisors, contacted Marian for a letter of support for the Ingraham building at the corner of Union and Dunham Streets. Jonathan Lee Cozzens will be developing the building for 43 units.

Ball Paintings - A gallery on Martha's Vineyard has a Percy Ball painting from the R.F. Simmons factory they would like to donate. Attleboro Arts museum is not accepting donations right now, but they have a meet in March to see if they will make an exception. Marian will hold onto until a suitable home for it is found.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION

Brian F. spoke with Vincent Luti, author of *Stonecutters and Their Works*, who thinks we should honor Attleboro stone cutters; perhaps displaying photos at APL? AHC has a disk of stone photos Luti sent to us.

Marian received a donation of miscellaneous items from the city Planning Office that came from Ed Casey's estate.

Next Meeting – **March 9, 2020**

Adjournment – 8:10 PM