



Attleboro Historical Commission

Government Center – 77 Park Street
Attleboro, Massachusetts, 02703



Minutes – April 1, 2021

Due to current COVID-19 pandemic the meeting was held both in-person, at the Attleboro Area Industrial Museum, and via Zoom video conferencing.

Regular Members:

In-person: Marian Wrightington (Chair), Brian French, Rachel Killion, Jerry Raposa

Zoom: Bill Lewis, Brian Ludwig

Alternate Members:

In-person: Jerry Turcotte, Len Yutkins

Zoom: Chris Frappier, Brian Hatch

Guest:

Zoom: Blake Reynolds

Jerry Turcotte acting as Regular Member in the absence of Bette Fuller

Meeting called to order by Chair, Marian Wrightington at 6:38 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion made by Brian French to accept the minutes from the March 4, 2021 meeting, as submitted. Seconded by Jerry T. Passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Attleboro Historic Preservation Society – working to put together some 2021 programming that will work with current pandemic restrictions; TDB; Voting on 3 plaques in South Attleboro, Newport Ave. corridor. DoubleACS replaying some old programs: Switch Tower and Carriage Houses.

Academy: nothing new

Schoolhouse Conditions – Muggsville: spoke with Jeremy Guay (AHS Career and Tech Ed. Director); he will not be able to work on the building with high school students. The broken window has been covered with plexiglass. Marian spoke with both Home Depot and Lowes regarding their community projects programs. Home Depot will donate materials if we can find appropriate people to do the work. She also submitted a request on Lowe's website, but is having difficult speaking to a store manager.

Dist. 17: buttoned up. Some chimney condition issues were noted.

Zoning and Planning Notices – nothing new to report.

Attleboro Land Trust – *Hike Attleboro* signs are up on Park Street. Re-skinning AHS greenhouse for one more year before it is donated to Willett School. Five CTE students from AHS are working with ALT this summer. USDA team is working with ALT to see if heirloom seeds germinate in colonial garden at Richardson Preserve. They will be videotaping activities.

Burial Grounds – a request was sent in to clean Follett cemetery from Randy Johnson. Jerry T. and Brian F. have been in contact with him to discuss where/how to dispose of refuse. He plans to work on it gradually with family and friends.

Postcards – 13 packets have been sold so far. Chris will submit proceeds to Brian L. when it reaches \$50.

OLD BUSINESS

Switch Tower – Erica McAvoy picked up information from Marian and is looking into potential National Register nomination.

Wolfenden Smokestack Replica – some cleaning has taken place around it; waiting for the weather to improve before pouring concrete and installing lights..

Preservation Awards – nothing new

Depot Canopy – Amtrak may be getting stimulus money; Jim Hawkins is keeping an eye out for funds.

Donations – 3 donations to review.

A donation by Maureen and Bruce McDonald: framed historic postcards (made for her father, Bob McDonald), plate and 75th City anniversary flag.

- A motion was made to accepted the McDonald donation. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Another donation from Anne Jenkins included books on the 1938 hurricane, fire booklet; notes from the Suffrage Ladies of Attleboro, a ration booklet, and misc. photos.

- A motion was made to accepted the Jenkins donation. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

The third anonymous donation was covered in a power/mildew. Rachel will clean it up for review at the next meeting.

Historic Corridor (Newport Ave.) – Jerry T. spoke to Rick Conti and he suggested creating a draft resolution for Mark Cooper to review. Rough boundaries are from Angeline St. to the City Pumping Station. Looking for suggestions for a name. Marian suggested putting a letter together on Commission letterhead to give to neighbors. Rachel will help put together a “petition” for supportive neighbors to sign recognizing the areas historic significance.

Briggs Hotel – Owner said Marian could do a mock-up of images she thought were appropriate. She brought 4 mock-up panels to meeting for the Commission’s thoughts. She will continue to work on them before bringing them to the owner.

Evelyn Silva Gallery – (Hill-Roberts Elem.) Ree Clarke's pictures will hang until June 2021.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership – Guests: Blake Reynolds has submitted his letter and received a call from the Mayor to discuss his interest. Blake has not heard back since if he has been approved. Unsure if Erica McAvoy has submitted her letter.

868 Pleasant St. – photo documented, demo application released. Owners allowed salvage of materials.

CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION

Marian was contacted by Lynne Mendes (Rec. Dept), her mother, Jean Salisbury, writes a newsletter for Christopher Heights and was looking for some historical information. Marian dropped it off and she gave her copies of the newsletter.

330 Turner Street factory. Developer looking for historic plans. We don't have anything.

Still need to pick up items from Highland Country Club.

They have begun work on the Hebron Mill spillway.

Monday night meetings are still on hold until we can use the Library. AAIM only available on Thursday evenings.

Next Meeting – TBD 2021

Adjournment – 8:04 PM