



Town of Hudson

Historical Commission

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749

Tel: (978) 562-2989

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2021

Members present: Peter Breton, Chair; Paul Shultz; Michael Volk; Al Morel; Mark Terra-Salomão, Ricky Gelin; Ron Sorgman

Staff:: Pam Helinek

1. Plaques and Markers

Michael Volk compiled a list of properties for the first round offer of plaques. Pam Helinek will edit the letter to property owners to request that they supply a one line description. Properties from the Historic District will need permission from the Historic District Commission and Town properties will need permission from the Select Board. Paul Shultz asked if there was a character limit on the plaques. Pam Helinek will ask Signlogic. Michael Volk moved to accept the proposed list, second my Mark Terra-Salomão, vote 7-0-0.

2. Poor Farm Cemetery

Present: George Cayer, Mark Schulthess

There has been renewed interest in the Poor Farm Cemetery, on private property on Main Street. There are at least two Revolutionary War Veterans buried there and a number of historians and Veteran's groups would like to mark the site with a plaque or other monument. Peter Breton said that the Commission had spoken to the property owner several years ago and that he did not want anything on his property. The site is not visible from the road, is partially paved over, and is blocked by dumpsters and old pallets.

George Cayer asked if alternately a plaque could be mounted on Main Street near the property. Mark Schulthess has forwarded an email from Sons of the American Revolution saying that the owner has agreed to meet in the spring. The Commission agreed to wait until spring to see if the owner will allow a plaque on the property, and if not to pursue the idea of a plaque on Main Street.

3. Demolition Bylaw

The Commission discussed which buildings should be subject to the proposed demolition bylaw. At the last meeting they voted that any building constructed before a chosen date would be subject. Paul Shultz did some research and reported several towns in the area include any building over 100 years old and that Southborough specifies buildings constructed before 1925. Paul Shultz looked at a number of Hudson buildings in the assessor's database and suggested 1945 as an appropriate date. Paul Shultz moved to use 1945 in the proposed bylaw, second by Michael Volk, vote 7-0-0. Mark Terra-Salomão will update the draft bylaw.

4. Mass Historical Commission Grant Application

Michael Volk suggested that the Commission consider applying for a grant. Pam Helinek said there was a 50% match requirement and that if they wanted to apply to CPC for matching funds they would need to wait until November Town Meeting which would be too late for this grant round. Peter Breton suggested using the current CPC grant as matching funds and applying for more house plaques. Michael Volk said that if everyone emailed him their suggestions he would compile a list to discuss at the next meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2020

Mark Terra-Salomão moved to approve the minutes from December 1, 2020. Second by Al Morel, vote 6-0-1.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for February 22, 2021 at 7:00PM.

7. Adjournment

Paul Shultz moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Al Morel, vote 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.