

## **Minutes**

**Gloucester Historical Commission**

**July 29, 2019**

**6:30 PM**

**City Hall 3rd Fl. Conference Room**

**9 Dale Ave.**

**Gloucester, MA 01930**

**Present:** Bob Whitmarsh, Bill Remsen, Jude Seminara, David Rhineland

**Absent:** Sandy Barry

**Guests:** JD MacEachern, Linn Parisi, Lillian Olmstead, Craig Olmstead, Susan Morreale

Meeting called to order at 6:37 PM

### **I. Approval of June Minutes**

*Jude motioned to approve the minutes of the June GHC meeting. Bill seconded. All voted in favor.*

### **II. Recruitment of new members**

Prospective new members of the GHC (Lillian Olmstead -- full member, Susan Morreale -- alternate member) introduced themselves and remarked on their interest and credentials.

*Bill made a motion to support Lillian's application. Jude seconded. All voted in favor.*

*Jude made a motion to support Susan's application. Bill seconded. All voted in favor.*

### **III & V. 400th and Podcast topics**

Bob indicated that since these are related, discussions on both should occur concurrently. Linn Parisi made some remarks about the 400th Committee, and asked that GHC members' involvement is encouraged and welcomed on the Heritage subcommittee. Topics for the ongoing History Podcasts in conjunction with 1623 Studios were presented by Bob. Jude offered to forward the work-in-progress list of topics he has been compiling, as well as any historical vignettes he has drafted. He has several one-to-two page frameworks of topics that can be fleshed out in podcasts.

### **IV. Stage Fort Park off-cycle grant**

As the city wants to begin doing work on Stage Fort Park ahead of the 400th, the Commissioners discussed the need for the next phase of the archaeology of Stage Fort Park. A surface survey was conducted and core samples taken last summer by UMass archaeologists.

*Jude made a motion to apply for an off-cycle grant for the Stage Fort Park archaeological survey. Bill seconded. All voted in favor.*

### **VI. Land Marks publication.**

Discussion of this topic was postponed until the August meeting.

### **VII. Demolition Review Ordinance**

A presentation date for the City Council should be set for next spring.

### **VIII. Annisquam Village Church CPC application**

The GHC has not yet received their application, so is unable to vote on this matter at this time. The tenor of the commissioners is supportive of the work that the AVC wants to conduct.

**IX. Certified Local Government status**

Discussion was held about the benefits of maintaining CLG status. Jude noted that at a previous meeting, the GHC voted to abandon its CLG status, and a vote would have to be taken before the annual report can be written. Bob will call David Porper of the HDC. The HDC has previously been disinterested in collaboration with the GHC to meet the requirements of the CLG status.

*Jude motioned to vacate the vote to discontinue CLG status and to proceed with the necessary steps to maintain it. Bill seconded. All voted in favor.*

**X. Communications**

**a. June 14 letter from the MHC re: Annisquam Village Church**

*Bill motioned to write a letter in support of the AVC rehabilitation. Jude seconded. All voted in favor.*

**b. Attorney General's letter re: open meeting law complaint**

Bob advised the GHC of a letter from the Attorney General's office notifying the GHC that the open meeting law complaint filed by Jeff Brown during the Dogtown National Register process was dropped by their office.

**c. Community Development letter**

Bob notified the GHC of a form letter sent to all city bodies re: a Block Grant for rehabilitation assistance for low and moderate income dwellings to be brought up to code.

*Bill motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jude seconded. All voted in favor. The GHC meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM*

The next meeting of the Gloucester Historical Commission will be held on August 26, 2019, in the 3rd floor conference room of City Hall

Respectfully submitted,  
Jude Seminara