

**Gloucester Historical Commission**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**City Hall**  
**April 27, 2015, 6:30 p.m.**

Present: David Rhinelander, Mary Ellen Lepionka, Bob Whitmarsh, Tom O'Keefe, Jeff Crawford, Leon Doucette, Michelle Mustone, Amanda Nash

**1. Minutes**

Minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and accepted with one correction.

Mary Ellen has posted the past year's minutes on the City website. **Amanda** will post all the others that she has. **Mary Ellen** will email the minutes from the 4/20/15 meeting to Amanda.

**2. Preservation Awards**

Award recipients will be introduced by the commissioner who contacted them except that

**Jeff** will introduce Karen Ristuben of Rocky Neck for the Cultural Center at Rocky Neck (adaptive reuse) award. Amanda will collect images from her.

**Leon** will introduce Robert Apse. His 9-minute video (education and outreach) will be shown. Not sure if Robert will be present; perhaps Les Bartlett can collect award.

**Bob** will introduce Jackie Jameison (preservation). Need slides. Jackie will come or will send someone.

**Mary Ellen** will introduce Rachel Meyer et al (preservation). MEL has photos.

**David** and/or **MEL** will introduce Steve Pardee (lifetime achievement?) (who will collect?)

**David** will introduce Pam & Fred Grote of the William Haskell House, 11 Lincoln St (preservation). Bonnie Kippen will accept? Jeff will get photos. **Leon** will try to find some old photos from the Museum.

**Mary Ellen** will introduce Joe Roman of 1 Tolman St (preservation) and get images.

**Amanda** will introduce Enduring Gloucester (education and outreach) and will get images.

Plus see three newest additions to the list below.

Note: This list is not in order.

All award recipient info will be delivered to Tom O'Keefe by **Mary Ellen** in the afternoon of 4/30.

Since the meeting on 4/20, Barbara Lambert suggested two more homes for awards and Helen McCabe suggested another one. It was agreed these would be added to the awards ceremony.

**Jeff** will contact Brian and Rebecca Wells-Sparks about 41 Haskell St

**Amanda** will contact Barbara and Lawrence Maver about 28 Haskell St (**Mary Ellen** agreed to take this over for Amanda in order to meet the 4/30 deadline)

**Mary Ellen** will contact ?? Loud and Carpenter about 26 Thurston Point Road.

**Amanda** will send the electronic files for past award ceremony programs to Leon.

**We all** need to get recipients to give us images if they can.

Michelle wants us to keep track of why things win an award.

### 3. Miscellaneous

Michelle would like to do a “This Day in History” blurb for the Gloucester Daily Times. Or perhaps This Month in History. Regular people don’t realize how much they love history! She will come up with some entries to discuss.

City Archives: We need to try to help find people to replace Sarah Dunlap and Jane Walsh while they are gone. (In both cases I’m not sure whether they are leaving or taking a leave? Does anyone know for sure?) Archives are open 9-1 Mon-Fri.

Cemetery Commission: Mary Ellen is considering being on it just to get it going, so the rates on the burial plots can be raised. What are the duties of the CC? There is an ordinance.

We should all be Sefatia’s Facebook friends!

Mary Ellen and Amanda have both been trained by James Pope in the IT department to upload material to the GHC page on the City website. **Mary Ellen** will contact Kathleen Valentine to set up a meeting to discuss her doing a separate GHC website that we can link to from the City page.

### 4. Cemeteries

We are eligible for a federal restoration grant for FPBG. The 2008 report evaluating First Parish will provide a basis for seeking grants.

Crystal is photographing gravestones and putting info on Find-a-Grave (website).

Rachel has expressed the view that she does not want the volunteer group she heads to be regarded as a subcommittee of the Historical Commission. Her preferred contact is David R. Rachel doesn’t want to promote the goats coming for fear that too many people will come. She feels word of mouth is sufficient.

Because First Parish is on the National Register, gravestone restoration should be done professionally. The woman running the gravestone cleaning and maintenance class is not certified by the State, but is the head of a club.

Gloucester Veterans’ Services (12 Emerson Ave) are letting them store some of the gravestone fragments there.

### 5. Meetinghouse Green/Plain

Jeff and Sarah Dunlap sent to the MHC for a 1741 map of the Meetinghouse Green. Jeff also went to the Assessor’s office; the Assessor said we could get the map off the City website, but that did not prove easy to do. **Mary Ellen** said she would look for it. Apparently it is Assessor Map 85. Jeff wants to superimpose old map over new map for the sign.

Text will be about what went on in the area. Jeff has gotten some material from Pru Fish. **Jeff** agreed to come up with a draft of the text.

White Ellery used to be where the road is now, just entering the rotary. The barn is where it was. Poplar Street was Fox Hill Road.

Meetinghouse Plain is next to the Green, going toward the marsh.

## **6. Various Old Business**

**Certified Local Government MOA – read it!** The Historic District Commission only meets as needed. CLG will require them to meet at least once per quarter.

**Demo delay draft – read it!** Next meeting we should go over it line by line and then push it through to get some feedback! Maybe elicit help from Chris Skelly and other communities' leaders. **Mary Ellen** will contact some nearby towns' historic commissions after our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm. The next regular meeting will be TUESDAY May 26th (due to Memorial Day) at 6:30 in the City Hall third floor conference room (assuming it can be scheduled – please confirm).

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Nash