

25 January 2016 GHC Minutes

Present: Mary Ellen Lepionka, David Rhineland, Jeff Crawford, Tom O'Keefe, Sandy Barry

Visitors: Frederick Geisel, Jo-Ann Castano, Peter Parsons, Pru Fish, Zenas Seppala

1. Minutes of the December 28th meeting.
Motion to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2015 meeting.
2. Welcoming of guests and public comment on items not on the agenda.
 - a) Sandy Barry sworn in as a temporary alternate for 90 days while she waits for the Feb 1 O&A and if approved the Feb 9 City Council.
 - b) Fred Geisel for the Stage Fort Park Advisory Committee is seeking to repair and rehabilitate the Welcome Center at Stage fort Park. They are seeking CPA funding under the historical preservation grant. They're requesting the support of the Gloucester Historical Commission. The property has been brought to the attention of the Massachusetts Historical Commission for listing in the state inventory of cultural resources.
Motion to approve GHC Support and Mary Ellen will write a letter of support.
 - c) Discussed the letter to Brona Simon, the State Historic Preservation Officer of the Mass Historical Commission, dated January 22. GHC wholeheartedly supports the nomination of the Gloucester City Hall Restoration, being put forth by the architects McGinley Kalsow & Associates, Inc. of Somerville for the 2016 Massachusetts Preservation Award in the category of Rehabilitation and Restoration. The nomination is in recognition of the role of the Gloucester City Hall Restoration Committee in the outstanding work done to restore the exterior of the iconic Gloucester City Hall at 9 Dale Ave.
Motion to approve GHC support and letter to be sent via Maggie Rosa of the Restoration Committee.
 - d) Briefly discussed a road trip exploring the potential Scenic Roads of Gloucester. These roads have been recently viewed by Jackie Jamieson with reference to roads identified in Pringle's HISTORY OF GLOUCESTER (1897), ALONG THE OLD ROADS OF CAPE ANN (Cape Ann Scientific and Literary Assn., 1923) and THE ISLAND WOODS (Mark Carlotto, 2012). The GHC will plan a group field trip to view the roads in warmer weather for possible nomination to the state as Scenic Roads.
3. Request for letter of support for the Manship estate in Lanesville as a historic resource eligible for CPA funding.

Jo-Ann Castano talked about the goals of the Manship Artist Residence and Studio (MARS) located at 10 Leverett St. To preserve one of Cape Ann's most important artistic and cultural heritage sites – the Manship Family residence, barn, studios, and property including two quarries. The estate is to become a center for the preservation of artist traditions and public engagement in the arts on Cape Ann and beyond. Per the draft GHC letter to Community Preservation Committee dated January 25 2016 the GHC finds that with Gloucester's cultural heritage of working artists and the oldest art colonies in the country, the Manship property is both historically significant and preferably preserved. We have brought it to the attention of the Massachusetts Historical Commission for listing in the state inventory of cultural resources. We believe it is eligible for funding under the provisions of the Community Preservation Act. Motion to approve GHC Support and Mary Ellen will send the letter.

4. Updates on the Demolition Delay Ordinance proposal and action plan.
 - a. Discussed ensuring all city councilors have received and reviewed the cover letter and latest proposed ordinance dated December 1, 2015.
 - b. We're still looking for a sponsor. Possible sponsors to follow-up with are Councilor at Large James W. O'Hara and Valerie H. Gilman ward 4.
 - c. Would like to pass the cost of Public Notices on to the property owner as is done in the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mary Ellen will amend the proposal to include this rider.
 - d. Mary Ellen will make an appointment with the Mayor for GHC members to discuss the proposal with her and will invite the city councilors to a Q&A at the February and March meetings of the GHC.

5. Updates on the 2015 and 2016 Survey and Planning Grants.
 - a. Discussed the Gloucester Historic Resources Survey Update Phase II Recommendations for Properties to be surveyed document dated January 15, 2016. Wendy Frontiero and Kathleen Kelly Broomer, preservation consultants.
 - b. The Rocky Neck Historic District is a National Register nomination. Rocky Neck requires more discussion and neighborhood outreach. There are 7 streets and 142 properties on the Rocky Neck list. Rocky neck needs resident's support, and they need to understand that we're not trying to make them a historic district. MHC will coach us on the nomination process.
 - c. Included in the Phase II report is a sample MHC Area form for the Gorton-Pew complex and a list of properties to be included in the study, e.g., areas such as Central Lanesville and buildings such as the Empire Fish Company, is on file. Buildings include the Blackburn, Gloucester Electric Company, Central Fire Station, and Mother of Grace Club.
 - d. The new grant for FY2016 is made possible by the Dusky Foundation, which will contribute the match of \$15,000 to the state's \$15,000 for a total of \$30,000. The new application is due February 8 and there is some question as to which properties the MHC wants us to focus on. They sent

the area form completed previously for Dogtown, which, however, may need to be a separate project or funded separately through the CPA. Mary Ellen will get clarification at her January 28 meeting with the consultants at the MHC to launch Phase III of the FT2015 grant. David Rhinelander, Linzee Coolidge, and Mayor Theken have all signed the paperwork for the 2016 application.

6. Discussion of *Land Marks* republication grant application to Gloucester Development Team.
 - a. Wendy Frontiero submitted a budget of \$30,000 (at \$100/hr), not counting the cost of prepress and printing. The GHC rejects her proposal.
 - b. Sandy will send softcopy of scanned Land Marks to David Rhinelander.
 - c. Decision to create a 60-page new edition with a vertical format 8.5X11 or 8X10, with additional sections for modern (post-1900) architectural styles and neighborhoods not represented in the first edition (e.g., Annisquam, Bay View, Riverview, Folly Cove, Lanesville, Magnolia, North Gloucester, Riverdale, Riverview, West Parish, etc.). Mary Ellen will propose a list of neighborhoods to include. The new edition will also have maps for the East Gloucester Square and Central Gloucester Historic Districts. Ref: <http://www.city-data.com/nbmaps/neigh-Gloucester-Massachusetts.html#ixzz3yhWJQmQK>. Mary Ellen will distribute a proposed mock-up of the book and Jeff will make recommendations for page design.
 - d. There will be multiple authors. Pru Fish will write sample copy for the architectural styles section for consideration. Mary Ellen will be the editor and will contribute writing. Pru offered to take photos and/or to identify the addresses to get photos of. There will be 126 photos, and Fred Buck at the Cape Ann Museum could also advise as to cost. We will decide at the next meeting how much involvement Wendy and others will have in the project, as there are architectural drawings in addition to text, photos, and maps.
 - e. Mary Ellen will present a grant proposal to Kirk Noyes that includes printing costs and will find out if they still have the bookplates from the first edition. Cricket Press in Manchester will print 1,000 for \$3500 and they do prepress at \$60/hr. Jeff will find out alternative printing costs, such as Internet companies that print from PDFs, for example the Kid's Guide. Jeff will bring the Kid's Guide and alternative costs to the next meeting.
 - f. Jeff recommends using the Leventhal maps from the Boston Public library. We are allowed to download and print the maps. If used in print or on a webpage we have to credit the map as follows: "Map image courtesy of the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library." Mary Ellen suggested that schematic street maps would be easier than historic maps for readers to relate to and find their houses on.

7. Additions to list of prospective candidates for 2016 Preservation Awards.
 - a. *Phoenix of the Seas: Ernestina-Morrissey*: State Ship of Massachusetts Hardcover – May 16, 2015 by Chester A. Brigham. Per Jeff Crawford
 - b. *Cape Ann Granite*, Paul St. Germaine of Rockport, about Lanesville, Arcadia Press, 2015. Per David Rhineland
 - c. John W. Erkkila & Betty Anne (Kielinen) Erkkila, son of Barbara Erkkila the Granite historian, wrote a book that was published in 2014 “Souvenirs of Pigeon Cove: The North Village of Rockport, Massachusetts circa 1850s-1950s”
 - d. The blog “Notes from Halibut Point” by Martin Ray <http://halibutpointnotes.blogspot.com/>
 - e. White house 45 Langsford St., Kathleen Fitzpatrick, owner, and 55 Langsford St., Debra and Mark Lucy, owners. Per Pru and Jeff Crawford. Jeff to take a photo.

8. Final art and text for the Meetinghouse signage to bring to Mike Hale.

Leon Doucette will send a copy of the signage for review but was delayed.

9. Action Plan for the GHC Web Site and Archives committee.
 - a. Two boxes of GHC documents are now in the Sawyer Free Library, to be indexed. b. Two boxes other boxes are at Mary Ellen’s, scheduled to work on this Sunday Feb 7 at 10:30 with Sandy Barry and Jeff Crawford.
 - b. Kathleen Valentine will design the website but needs PDFs and things to scan in.
 - c. Mary Ellen will ask Michelle to return the GHC archives material in her care.

10. Discussion of letter of support for the Annisquam Historical Society’s eligibility for a CPA grant.
 - a. GHC letter dated January 20, 2016 to Community Preservation Committee, Debbie Laurie in the Community Development Department. The Gloucester Historical Commission received a request from the steering committee of the Annisquam Historical Society to assess the historical significance of the former Deluge 8 Firehouse, which faces Walnut St. in Annisquam Village. The Deluge 8 building and its contents are clearly historically significant and should be preserved. GHC supports the Annisquam Historical Society’s application for eligibility for CPA funding.
 - b. The \$2,000 request to the CPA is considered a Phase I feasibility study, but if estimates can be obtained, a feasibility study will not be needed and the request may be for the cost of restoration.

Next Meeting date: **Monday, February 29, 2016**, 6:30 p.m. in the 3rd floor conference room, City Hall.