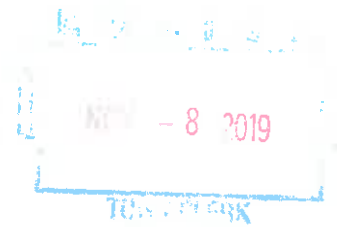


**Stow Historical Commission  
Meeting Minutes**

**October 3, 2019**

Whitney Room, Stow Town Building



Present: Dorothy Spaulding (DS), chair; Andy Crosby (AC), treasurer; Barbara Clancy (BC), secretary

Absent: Patrick Hopkins

Guests: Margaret Costello, Gleasondale Neighborhood Area Subcommittee/Planning Board; Eve Fischer, 6 Sudbury Road; Valerie Oorthuys, Planning Department

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m.

**Minutes**

Motion to approve by AC, seconded by DS, approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's report**

No changes from last month. Approved unanimously.

**Building permits**

None received.

**Gleasondale**

Valerie Oorthuys said that for the past few years a subcommittee of the planning board has been looking at establishing a local historical district in Gleasondale, as the best way to preserve the look and feel of the neighborhood. She went over the steps in legally adopting a local historical district, laying out a 9 to 12 month process that could lead to vote at an upcoming Town Meeting, where it would have to be approved by 2/3rds of those present. These steps include the Board of Selectmen's appointment of a local historical district study committee. This committee would look at the housing inventory and survey done by Gleasondale volunteers, hold public hearings, decide on boundaries for the district, and write a report to be submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for analysis and input. After any revisions, a bylaw for the district is written and voted on by Town Meeting and must be approved by 2/3rds of those present.

Margaret Costello responded to a question on community support of the proposed district, saying that a survey received 22 responses, only one of which was negative, and that more house-to-house canvassing is ongoing. The hope is to get responses from about 50 residents. So far the only concern is whether there would be restrictions on where antennas could be placed.

In response to a question by AC, Ms. Oorthuys said that the SHC's role in the possible establishment of the district would be supportive. The district study committee or local historical district commission would operate independently of the SHC, if approved.

BC moved that the SHC support the proposed Gleasondale Local Historic District, seconded by DS. Motion approved unanimously. SHC will submit a letter to the Board of Selectmen to let them know about our support.

**Community Preservation Committee**

AC reports that the committee is meeting on Monday, October 7.

AC sent an email to the Library Trustees about installing picture rails so that pictures from the library put in storage through the upstairs renovation can be rehung. Bids for installing the rails were received but the lowest bidder subsequently turned the job down. The project is now on hold until a new librarian is hired.

AC also reported that West School repairs and preservation will be discussed at CPC's next meeting, along with the sale of Highrock Chapel and the Stow Acres driving range.

#### **West School**

AC has the names of three contractors who could possibly advise the Commission on work that needs to be done on West School. We can ask the CPC for consulting funds without going to Town Meeting.

#### **Town Hall Restoration**

AC went over revisions to the Town Hall floor plans.

#### **Old/New business**

We received erosion control plans for the Collings/Malone property, which we did not need to take action on.

#### **Correspondence:**


We received some information about available grants.

DS moved to adjourn, seconded by BC. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Submitted by

  
Barbara Clancy

Minutes approved on:

  
date