Town of Stow

Stow Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2022

I. Call to order

Dot Spaulding called to order the regular meeting of the Stow Historical Commission at 7:34 p.m. on Thursday, January 6, 2022 on Zoom.

II. Roll call

The following people were present:

Commission Members: Dot Spaulding, Barbara Clancy, Andy Crosby, Stacen Goldman

Absent: none

Guests: none

III. Approve Minutes

Andy Crosby made and Stacen Goldman seconded a motion to approve the December minutes as amended. Motion was approved unanimosly.

November minutes were corrected. Andy made and Stacen seconded a motion to amend the minutes as corrected and reissue them. Motion was approved unanimously

IV. Treasurer's Report

Barbara Clancy moved and Dot Spaulding seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Motion was approved unanimously.

V. 2022 Budget

Dot Spaulding said that she has submitted a budget of \$1,200, which is the same as last year. She said the commission may incur some costs as a result of changing the boundaries on the proposed Gleasondale Historic District. Andy Crosby made and Stacen Goldman seconded a motion to approve the budget for 2022. Motion was approved unanimously.

VI. Building Permits

None received

VII. Randall Library Future

We have no new information on the Randall Library project. We are concerned that while the Library building committee has applied for Community Preservation Act funds under historic preservation they have not yet brought the project to the Commission. Dot will remind them that the Historical Commission needs to approve the project.

VIII. Community Preservation Committee

Barbara Clancy reported that the Community Preservation Committee has received applications totaling \$6.9 million, which is more than what is available in CPA funds. The Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust has requested \$1.1 million for an affordable housing development on Red Acre Road.

The Library Building Committee has requested \$1 million for a portion of the library project. The Town Hall Restoration Committee has requested \$4.8 million for work on the Town Hall. Each group will come in and make a presentation to the CPC over the CPC's next two meetings. The Commission will discuss the different proposals at the two meetings following the presentation meetings.

Stow will receive \$419k in CPA funds this year from the state distribution.

Andy Crosby asked if some supporting material for the Town Hall project had been distributed to CPC members. Barbara said she had not yet received it but that the meeting packet is usually sent out the Friday before the Monday meeting. Andy said that material to be sent to CPC is on the Town Hall Restoration Committee's page on the Stow Town website.

IX. Town Hall Restoration

Andy Crosby asked if the commission was ready to vote to approve the Town Hall Restoration Committee application for CPA funding. The commission reviewed a presentation on the project which detailed plans for upgrades to accessbility, utilities, insulation, reinforcing structural integrity, adding appropriate toilet facilities, redoing the basement for office and meeting space, and exterior improvements. Barbara Clancy had a question about the access from the town building parking lot; Andy said improvements to safety would fall under the Planning Board's Complete Streets program. Dot Spaulding asked about supervising children's programs if the restrooms were not on the same floor as the event. Andy said this was discussed but there wasn't enough room upstairs for restrooms that would meet occupancy requirments. Dot noted that she had also raised concerns about the absence of a fire suppression system. Dot also asked about how the project would be paid for given that there are not enough CPA funds on hand. Andy said that the project would have to be bonded. Bond payments would come from CPA funds received by the town in future years.

Stacen Goldman moved and Barbara seconded a motion to approve the use of CPA historical funding to restore the Town Hall as proposed by the Town Hall Restoration Committee. Motion was approved unanimously.

We agreed to discuss possible historic display areas at the Town Hall at our February meeting.

X. West School

Barbara Clancy reported that the engineer from Structures North planned to inspect West School on Monday, January 10, weather permitting, starting at around 10:30 a.m. An alternate date is Monday, January 17. The inspection won't take longer than a day. Dot Spaulding noted that Mass Historical Commission needs additional photos and measurements for the school's National Register application.

XI. New Members

New members are still needed.

XII. Old and New Business

Dot Spaulding is working on a piece for the COA paper for Black History Month. She has information for Stacen on Mapledale Country Club. Barbara Clancy said that she had also heard from the Conservation Commission about plans for the South Course, which includes golf but also a trail around most of the course. She will forward the email to the commission.

Dot will see about getting commission members in to see the vault when the town building reopens.

XIII.	Correspo	ndence
XXIII.	Correspo	

None received.

Next meeting:

Thursday, February 3 on Zoom at 7:30 p.m

Adjournment:

Andy Crosby made and Stacen Goldman seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Barbara Clancy

Minutes Approved on: 2-3-22