

Provincetown Historical Commission
June 8, 2007
Minutes

Meeting called to order 9:00 AM

Members Present: Polly Burnell, Stephen Desroches, Eric Dray, Steven Milkewicz, Taylor Polites and Char Priolo

Others Present: Debra De Jonker-Berry, Lyn Kratz and Mick Rudd.

1. Approval of Agenda

Polly Burnell moved to approve the agenda with the inclusion of an opportunity for public statements. Steve Desroches seconded.

Vote: 6-0-0

2. Approval of Minutes

Char Priolo moved to approve the minutes. Burnell seconded.

Vote: 6-0-0

3. Public Statements

There were no public statements.

4. Joint Meeting with the Library Board of Trustees

Debra DeJonker-Berry, Library Director, Mick Rudd, chair of the Library Board of Trustees, and Lyn Kratz, Library Trustee, introduced themselves to the Historical Commission. Eric Dray described the role of the Commission related to the preservation and renovation of the Library building. Rudd invited Dray to speak about the Commission at the upcoming Heritage Day celebration on June 14th. DeJonker-Berry described the current funds available for continued renovation after the completion of the belfry project. The Board will then identify priorities, request bid documents and work toward a contract by the end of the year. Dray said that he will write a letter to the Banner after the completion of the belfry project to discuss the need for funds to complete the facade and garden restoration. Dray suggested the Community Preservation Act funds might also be a potential resource. Rudd also mentioned beginning a garden club to help the interim landscaping of the gardens.

5. Charles Hawthorne Barn

Desroches updated the Commission on his discussion with Ted Malone regarding potential opportunities to preserve the historic Hawthorne Barn while maintaining its use as an art school. An open discussion of the issue followed, including the possibility of inviting the directors of the Fine Arts Work Center and the Provincetown Art Association

and Museum to discuss the issue.

6. New Business

The Commission discussed the current state of development of the waterfront park, managed by the VSB, and what potential role the Commission could play to insure an appropriate update of the park area.

The Commission discussed the rejection of the Traditional Cultural Property designation by the National Register of Historic Places for the Dune Shacks of the Peaked Hill Bars Historic District. The Dune Shacks have not yet been registered with the National Register, and the Commission discussed what next steps could be taken to set that process in motion.

The Commission also discussed the renovation plans for Firehouse No. 2.

Priolo moved to appoint Steve Desroches as the Commission liaison to the Board of Selectmen for the renovation of Firehouse No. 2. Burnell seconded.

Vote: 6-0-0

Next Meeting: Friday, July 13, 2007 9:00 AM

Action Items

- Priolo will begin collecting detailed information on the existing oral histories to create an inventory of them.
- Dray will discuss status of Town Hall with David Guertin and what level of rehabilitation is needed to correct current issues so the Commission has a better understanding of the situation.
- Desroches will check with the Martha's Vineyard Oral History Project for additional information on managing an oral history project.
- Johnson stated she would make an effort to inventory her oral histories. Burnell offered to assist her in this inventory.