



TOWN OF WARE

Historical Commission
126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082

Minutes
September 23, 2013

Present: Kathy Galford, Lynn Caulfield Lak, Judi Mosso.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

1. Approval of August Minutes – **Motion** by K. Galford, seconded by L. Lak to accept the August minutes as presented. Unanimous.
2. Treasurer's Report – K. Galford reported little change; just minor expenses. **Motion** by J. Mosso, seconded by L. Lak to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Unanimous.
3. Special Projects
 - a. *Town Hall replacement windows and paint* – Judi received an update from Stuart: Windows have been ordered and should arrive at the end of September. Kathy spoke to Mass Historical Commission about the 3 windows in the Town Clerk's office. It appears that there are two options: finding funds for replacements or restoring the windows and adding weatherization. For painting the hallway, we will need to rely on community service people/organizations as employees seem too busy. It will be a 3 step process: clearing and washing the walls, primer and then the color.
 - b. *Nenameseck Square Fountain Restoration* – The Commission feels that with the newly restored fountain, extra attention and care should be paid to what is placed in the Square, such as the large Christmas decorations. The Commission agreed that the care and custody of the Square should go back to the Parks Department as they are the ones who work on it more frequently. However, we would like to maintain our working relationship with the Parks and want to be kept informed about issues or happenings related to the Square. We are hoping to also share the cost of creating the finials with the Parks (\$300/each). Lynn will ask to be placed on the Parks' October agenda. A September 19 *Ware River News* article featured Monson Savings Bank's Community Challenge with proceeds going to the fountain maintenance fund. It featured Judi's picture but no photo credit was given.
 - c. *South Street School* – Judi received an update from Stuart: Warren roofing completed shingle repairs to stop leaks. Two storage containers have been temporarily moved to the school.
 - d. *Old Fire Station, East Street* – Judi received an update from Stuart: Three bids came in on September 19. The re-uses included an auto repair shop, light industrial

shop, and a truck storage/professional office use. The bids ranged from \$25,000 to \$40,000 but will likely be rejected by the BOS. Stuart has asked the DPW, Planning, and Building departments to walk through the building with him to reconsider a Town use.

4. Old Business & Updates

- a. *Bandstand at Grenville Park* – Judi received an update from Stuart: Designs are finalized and almost ready for bid. It will be tight, but the hope is to have the foundation done this fall. The project has been whittled down to mostly concrete work with an aluminum ramp. Judi will e.mail a copy of the design to the Commission.
- b. *Fountain celebration* – Kathy was loaned a small garden fountain from Lowe’s for the reception. She will seek food/cake donations from either Big Y or Walmart. Judi is helping assemble pictures of the fountain for display. She personally invited our dignitaries; if everyone invited attends, we could possibly have a few hundred people. However, we doubt that will happen.
- c. *Pulaski Day Parade in Northampton, October 14* – The Commission is unable to attend but Judi asked Jerry Budgar, the parade coordinator, to keep us on his mailing list.
- d. *Fall Fest on October 5* – The Ware Center Meeting House will receive half the proceeds from the fair; the Under 5 Thrive program (to raise children out of poverty) may receive the other half.

5. New Business

- a. *Comments and Concerns from Citizens* – none.
- b. *Room and File Cabinet for Commission* – The BOH’s heavy metal adjustable bed frame still needs to be moved (perhaps with DPW help). We also have a filing cabinet that needs to be moved to our new room from the Water Department. Judi will look into getting items moved. The room key was given to Kathy.
- c. *Stephen Katz* – Kathy assisted Mr. Katz with genealogy research as he wrote *The Kaplans of Ware, Massachusetts* (Infinity Publishing, August 29, 2013). He sent her a complimentary copy. Lynn suggested the Society host him as a speaker on his book.
- d. *Protective Map Sleeves* – Kathy received a quote on protective pages for the old maps we’d like to restore. Judi will look into it.
- e. *Ware’s 250th Anniversary* – Kathy submitted planning documents from the event.

6. Mail – no mail.

7. Adjourn – We meet next October 28. **Motion** by J. Mosso, seconded by L. Lak to adjourn at 7:50. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Judith P. B. Mosso