



Ware

MASSACHUSETTS

Historical Commission
126 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082

www.townofware.com

Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes from
March 27, 2017

Meeting took place at Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Ware

Historical Commission members present: Lynn Lak (Chairman), Cindi LaBombard, Kathy Galford, Judi Mosso, Martha Rohan, Lorrie Willette

Historical Commission members absent: Wanda Mysona

Public: Stuart Beckley

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

1. Administrative

- a) Approve minutes from February 27 – January’s meeting was canceled due to inclement weather. **Motion** by L. Willette to accept the minutes as presented. So voted 6/0/0.
- b) Treasurer's Report – K. Galford presented the report. **Motion** by J. Mosso to accept the report as presented. Seconded by C. LaBombard. So voted 6/0/0.

2. Special Projects

a) Town Hall

- i. Restoration Committee is slowly forming. We have three dedicated volunteers: Jane Desjardins, Patricia Scutnick, and Linda Kenyon. We will invite them to the April meeting. We would like to have 5 people on the committee. We hope to have a table set up at Grenville Park for the 5K Sparkle Run (fundraiser for fireworks).
- ii. Great Hall - L. Lak and K. Galford will present a list of all of our projects to the Finance Committee to see if any of them qualify for emergency public safety funding (such as the front step at the Main Street entrance). We need cost estimates so the FinCom can make informed decisions. M. Rohan will ask Building Inspector what is needed to allow occupancy for the balcony. Commission agreed that fire safety on the stage is a priority; FD will not do

the work; Chris Stima at the school may have staging/scaffolding we might borrow. S. Beckley to contact see if Titan Roofing can do the job. C. LaBombard will contact Building Inspector, possible contractors, and C. Stima at the school. Ian Stewart, owner of New Netherland Timber Framing and Preservation, is willing to provide a schedule of needed repairs, including pointing brick, with cost estimates. S. Beckley inquired about painting using intern labor. Commission wants new shades protected; J. Mosso will inquire with shade vendor. Fire curtain is asbestos so it will eventually be removed completely and replaced.

- iii. Entryways - Handicapped entrance door had locks repairs and windows glazed. We may still need crash bars (Stuart will check with the FD). Replacing the granite step is much too expensive. Fabricating part of it is within budget (S. Beckley can pay from a maintenance budget).

- b) Fundraising ideas (Ware Community Theater) – C. LaBombard would like to have The Sound of Music performed and the proceeds donated to the restoration fund. Further discussion saved for April meeting.

3. Old Business & Updates

- a) Mural at 123 Main (facing Veterans' Park) – there has been no word on this project and no further grant money.
- b) South Street School – the proposed senior living facility will probably not happen. The developer (Optimus) was unable to get the investor backing they needed. There is still an RFP out for the sale of the building; proposals due April 14.

4. New Business

- a) Comments and concerns from citizens – none.
- b) MHC's Preservation Projects Fund – we missed the deadline.
- c) Cemetery trail at WCMH – dedication moved to June 11
- d) Historical inventory – L. Lak and L. Willette presented an early draft of their efforts to inventory items in our Commission room behind the stage. The Commission would still like to display some pictures and items at Town Hall. Some items can be loaned to the Society or WCMH.
- e) Bridge plaque – While Lynn and Lorrie were inventorying, they discovered a plaque for the covered bridge restoration that was never installed. They will work with DPW to get it installed. An older faded wooden sign for the covered bridge could be displayed at the WCMH.
- f) Western MA HC Coalition – L. Lak plans on attending ; meeting topic: *Funding and Financing Your Project*. Mr. Haffmans (West Warren Road) is seeking more funding to aid in his restoration.

- g) Memorial Day observation / Schmidt Trust – Quabbin Memorial is scheduled for Sunday, May 28 at 11:00. L. Lak will walk; we need another.

5. Mail & Announcements

- a) J. Mosso will respond to US Trust letter inquiring about our annual meeting.
- b) A resident donated newspapers from 1976 (Ware's 225th anniversary)
- c) Spring Swing will be April 9 at 1 at Lynn's house.

6. Adjourn – **Motion** by J. Mosso to adjourn at 7:50 pm. Seconded by K. Galford.

Documents reviewed at meeting

February 27 minutes
Treasurer's report
Inventory
US Trust letter re Memorial Day observance

Documents received at meeting

newspapers

Respectfully submitted by
Judi Mosso, Commission Secretary