



**MENDON
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

20 Main Street
Mendon, MA 01756
historical@mendonma.gov

Wayne Wagner, Chairman
Jane Lowell
Kathleen Schofield
Ellen Wagner
Don Colanton

Meeting Date	January 5, 2016 at 7pm
Location	Mendon Town Hall
Status	Approved

Present

Wayne Wagner, Don Colanton, Kathy Schofield, Ellen Wagner and Lynne Roberts

7:05 Call to Order

Chairman Wayne Wagner called the meeting to order.

7:05 Review Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from November and December were reviewed. Ellen moved to accept the minutes from November. Kathy seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion to accept. Don moved to accept the December minutes as written. Ellen seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion. Kathy moved to accept the December 11 minutes from the Miscoe Site visit. Don seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

7:10 Follow Up Discussion for February Meeting with Mr. Wheeler Sylvan Springs / Miscoe Springs

The Commission members summarized information from the December meeting with Mary Bulso and architect David Eisen. As David remarked the building would be considered a White Elephant requiring an extensive rehabilitation.

The group discussed some of the additional challenges presented by the age and irregular construction of the structure. Mr Wheeler will be joining the Commission in February to decide if there is a solution to the stone structure. Based on information provided by David and Mary adaptive reuse may not be a financially feasible alternative. The group agreed to consider any additional inquiries regarding the structure between now and February 2, 2016. The Commission received a copy of the demolition permit for the entire structure, which was a copy of the original one that was filed in 2013. This created some confusion for the group. It would be preferable to have an updated demolition permit. The Commission will update the permit with Mr. Wheeler in February.

7:30 Olney Cook Shop Signs

The Commission discussed the content of the information for the Olney Cook Signs. It was suggested that more emphasis be placed on cottage industry shops in the Town and along the Old Hartford Turnpike. The group discussed the limited amount of information regarding the Cook family.

It was determined that the shop was never officially recognized on either the State or National Historic Register. Kathy will talk to Jane and see where the process was left when she and Amy were finishing the documentation. The possibility of adding a plaque to the exterior sign if and when the nomination was accepted was explored.

Kathy said she knew a photographer who could come in and take some high-resolution photographs of the shop for the educational signage. She will set that up. Don will speak to John Trainor and Dick Grady to gather more information on the cottage industry shops and locate a map of the Town that shows the

location of some of those shops.

7:40 Town Hall Sign Approval

The Commission reviewed three layouts for the Town Hall Sign. The members selected one design and agreed that the content of the narrative be shortened. A new proposal will be put together and presented at the next meeting.

8:00 RFP Cemetery Phase 1

Kathy reported that work has begun on writing the RFP for the Old Cemetery. She expects to submit the draft to Town Council for review. The goal is to put the project out to bid in February.

8:10 Library Roof

Dan Gardner placed a temporary Ice and Water Shield on the Library roof last month. He reported the work needed to repair the roof leak was more extensive and would require re-shingling the steeple as well. He suggested the Town seek a quote for the needed work. Jane has requested referrals on Mass Listserv.

8:15 Annual Report to BOS

The Commission reviewed the annual report. Some corrections were made and the group approved the report. Kathy will submit it to the Board of Selectmen.

8:20 Historic District Study Committee

The Commission spoke with Lynne Roberts who attended the meeting this evening. She has accepted appointment for the Historic District Study Committee. The members were able to share some information with her about the process. The Commission is looking forward to hearing the study group recommendations.

8:30 Cox Property Update

Wayne Wagner offered to speak with Anne Mazar to see how the Cox Property and Open Space transfer was going.

8:35 35 Cape Road

Kathy reported that the sale of 35 Cape Road was expected to happen in the next week or two. The Commission will reach out to the new owner to discuss the fate of the house and outbuildings. It appears the house sits on the most desirable parcel on the lot.

8:40 Demolition Permit 16 Cape Road

The Commission reviewed the small garage at 16 Cape Road. The structure has limited historical significance. The Commission voted in favor of the demolition. Wayne Wagner made a motion to approve the demolition. Ellen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

8:45 Adjourn

Kathy moved to adjourn the meeting. Ellen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of adjourning. The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday February 2, 2016.