

**Historical
Commission
MEETING
MINUTES**

April 12, 2016

Monthly Meeting

Town Hall / Ground Floor Conference Room

Chairman Donna Desjardins, Cathy Taylor, Howie Glassman,
George Patterson, Jim Brochu, Russ Woods. Guest Liz Evans

1 At 7:06pm, The Chairman opened the meeting and reviewed agenda.
2

3 Meeting minutes motioned and approved with the following corrections. Change Ken Paul to Ken Paulsen,
4 Russ was in attendance, Regarding Centennial Court, it was stated yes on potential Mass Tax Credit and no on
5 Federal tax as West Upton is not listed on the Federal Guidelines. Majority action vote as Jim abstained due to
6 his absence from the last meeting.
7

8 Howie stated with regards to the treasurer's report that there was no change from last month.
9

10 Heritage Park - Chairman stated the she is working with the Conservation Commission and the Commission
11 Clerk with regards to the development of a Land Management Plan for Heritage Park. Jim provided a report
12 that the Conservation Restriction for Heritage Park was still in the process of approval with the required state
13 agencies. The Town Manager regularly send an e-mail to the state on status. With regards to Heritage Park
14 Funding, question arose about the \$2,000 in the budget and were those funds available for new plantings and
15 plans, or for the general maintenance of the land. Jim stated that he believes it was for new plantings, but will
16 seek clarification. Jim also mentioned that the new commission proposed gate for the property is identified as
17 a line item in the upcoming town meeting warrant. Liz commented and handed out a planting plan for
18 Heritage Park and the urgency in placing an order soon to assure product availability. Discussion occurred
19 regarding use of the revolving fund. Jim had concerns with the correct use of this account and wanted to just
20 make sure it was set up and classified for this use. Cathy explained that this account is primarily made up of
21 donations and asked if it could be reclassified as a gift account. At Jim's request, the chairman will follow-up
22 with the town manager and town accountant for clarification. Regarding Liz's request, motion made by Russ,
23 seconded George, to support the \$753.92 request for new plantings, positive vote contingent on discussions
24 with the town manager and the legality of using the current "revolving fund". Cathy commented with concerns
25 on the depth of the proposed landscape plugs planned for the chamber top.
26

27 Grove Street and Centennial Court – Jim mentioned that the RFP has been published and to date have not
28 heard of any interest. Responses are due to the town on Thursday, April 14. Cathy inquired about the 60 day
29 extension. Jim replies that technically we are currently within that extension, Jim put forth an invoice for
30 publication costs to post the RFP for two Grove Street. Motion made by George, seconded by Russ, approval
31 vote. Chairman reported that she placed a call and left a message for Matt regarding Centennial Court with no
32 response.
33

34 Conservation Commission Request – Chairman restated the CC's requests to seek a name for a parcel of land
35 off Warren Street and extending behind Coach Road Apartments and surrounding area. Ideas were mentioned,
36 and understanding that Hotel Pleasant and a business with the Woods name resided within it, it was decided to
37 recommend "Pleasant Woods"
38

39 Jim provided an update on the Administrative Assistant stating that \$631.00 has been budgeted reflecting one
40 hour per week or four hours per month. If approved, it will begin July 1, 2016.
41

42 Other Topics – Cathy commented on the assistance being provided by BU Professor Christine Ragalla and
43 Shannon Meham with general background information. Chairman inquired about 6 Main Street and 14 North
44 Main Street. Jim commented that it was the owner intent and request from ZBA and Planning to rebuild 6
45 Main and Temporary receivership was issued by a court on behalf of the town and Board of Health to seek the
46 clean-up and safe condition of that property. Jim will forward that court decision to the commission. Russ
47 requested an individual to read at the first cemetery on Memorial Day as Ms. Burke will not be available. The

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48 Chairman will provide this service. Russ also mentioned that Mendon awarded a contract to restore their
49 town's first cemetery.

50

51 Look Ahead – Chairman commented that the commission should look at and possibly develop a clear criteria
52 and process with regards to the commission implementing a Demo Delay.

53

54 Motion made and meeting adjourn 8:35PM

55

56 *Respectfully submitted,*

57

58 *James a Brochu*