

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Commission of September 16, 2021

A regular meeting of the Peabody Historical Commission (PHC) was held on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the Smith Barn, Felton St., Peabody. Present were Commissioners: John Andruszkiewicz, Michael Bonfanti, Jeff Budd, Carolina Busta, Dave Cronin, Deborah Eskenazi, Frank Hardy, and Andy Metropolis. Absent: Cheryl Millard.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Michael Bonfanti.

Chairman's Remarks: 1) Do we want to continue meeting at the Smith Barn or Geo. Peabody House? Consensus is to continue meeting at the Smith Barn.

Correspondence: None.

Approval of Minutes: Upon **Motion**, duly made by Dave Cronin, seconded by Deby Eskenazi, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 15, 2021. Motion passed: unanimous.

Committee Reports: 16 Crowninshield St: Chimney has been repainted. The sign is on backorder due to steel being hard to get and landscaping has been done. Debby is going to ask them to delay the opening ceremony until the spring. She is also going to ask for benches again, letting them know there haven't been any reports of vandalism in years.

Old Business: Cemeteries - CPC Grant & Signage: **1)** Mike & Jeff asked the Sr. Center Woodshop to make templates for sixteen signs. So far they have 6 signs which are at AdPro. The Veterans Agent is paying for all of them. We will install them when ready; **2)** Mike is going to ask the woodshop to also do templates for house signs which homeowners will pay to have printed; **3)** The Mayor approved the basic design and will have them done and paid for. Mike mentioned a stand-alone pedestal for additional information. The Mayor is leaving placement up to the Commission but DPW will install them.

2 Washington St/St. Paul's Church Updates: Ed Greeley is getting pressure from people saying that the city gave the building away so he does not want to ask the CPC for funding. Mike suggested he do a short show on PATV showing people his plans.

New Business: Historic Signage: See above.

Meeting at Fire HQ for new Windows: Mike has a letter of support drafted. He is just waiting for the Chief to apply for funding to replace the windows.

Special Meeting with Mayor, 8/25/21: A detailed email was sent outlining the meeting (attached).

20A Franklin St: Pat Todisco called as he just purchased the house. He is going to restore it the right way as it is in the historic district.

182 Lynn St: Mike requested a ruling from the city solicitor about the CPC granting funds to private homeowners but hasn't heard back. The CPC also requested a ruling. Darren Kelly, Chair, doesn't think they can do it. Andy has read as much as possible and believes funds can be granted if the property is deemed historical & of value to the community by the Commission. He also feels the Commission has an obligation to save them. There was a brief discussion about saving historic homes with CPC funds, whether vinyl should be allowed to be used in the historic district. Mike doesn't want to delay the owners of 182 Lynn any further and will ask for a vote next month after the City Solicitor has issued his ruling.

20 Webster St: The Commission received a request about putting an antenna on the chimney. The chimney already has antennas on it.

Response of City Solicitor re: CPC Funding: See comments under 182 Lynn St.

Old South Burial Ground CPC Funding Status: Dick St. Pierre came up with the idea of going to the CPC to fund restoration of cemetery headstones. The grant for the Old South Burial Ground was approved Tuesday and is going before the council next week. This is a gateway to the city and will clean the area up nicely.

Remarks by Commissioners:

John Andruszkiewicz: Noting to add.

Jeff Budd: Nothing to add.

Lola Busta: Noting to add.

Dave Cronin: Nothing to add.

Debby Eskenazi: On behalf of Cheryl – the Sutton House is going to hold a dedication of their new historic house plaque on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. Invitations will be sent out.

Frank Hardy: Nothing to add.

Dianne Marchese: Nothing to add.

Andy Metropolis: Nothing to add.

Cheryl Millard: Absent.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting date is scheduled for October 21, 2021 at 6:00 pm at the Smith Barn.

Adjournment: **Motion** to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. by Dave Cronin, seconded by Lola Busta. Motion passed: unanimous.