

Peabody Historical Commission

Minutes of February 20, 2020 Commission Meeting

The regular meeting of the Peabody Historical Commission (PHC) was held at the Peabody Institute Library Trustees Room on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners: Michael Bonfanti (by telephone), David Cronin, Deborah Eskenazi, Frank Hardy, Cheryl Millard, John Andruszkiewicz and Jeff Budd. Absent were Carolina Busta and Andy Metropolis.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairman Cheryl Millard.

Motion made by Debby Eskenazi to approve the regular Committee minutes of January 23, 2020 as presented and was seconded by Frank Hardy. A roll call vote was taken.

All in favor: Yes. Opposed: No. The motion was unanimously approved.

Acting Chairman's Remarks: 1) Myself, Frank & John have to be sworn in at city hall next month. Jeff has to be appointed by the council; 2) Lola had knee surgery.

Discussions/Presentations:

Committee Reports

Correspondence: Letter to Dr. Sportsman. Good job doing field work.

Educational Exchange Program: Frank: No changes. Still waiting for Mayor's feedback.

Children's Museum: Debby & Cheryl met with Melissa Robinson. Saw the new exhibits, they're still uncertain as to whether or not they'll be in the O'Shea building, the carriage house or St. Paul's. They'll be using the Leather City Museum longer than originally thought. The exhibits are science based; people stay approx. 90 minutes. There is concern that surrounding cities are going to open their own children's museums and take Curious City away from Peabody. We are going to meet with them monthly.

Old Business

Historic House Markers: The Sutton House sign is complete and cost \$150. Jeff is going to contact Essex Tech and see if they can make them. Mike suggested looking into the company Danvers HC uses. As soon as there are 2 or more prices, we can make a decision. Cheryl is going to look at her notes and see who other commissions use.

Website Creation for PHC: The website will be updated as soon as sign pricing is finalized.

10 Chestnut Street Special Permit: None.

Bowditch House: None.

Doppler Radar: Sent letter to company representing NBC. No objections from the Commission.

143 Lynnfield St.: Kelly is researching for historical nature. Mike will ask Andy to follow up.

Housing Program/CPC Funding: None.

New Business - None

Remarks by Commission Members:

Dianne: Nothing to add.

Lola: Absent.

Dave: Nothing to add.

Debby: Nothing to add.

Frank: Nothing to add.

Andy: Absent.

Cheryl: Nothing to add.

John: Happy to be added as a member.

Mike: 1) Trying to get memberships increased. There's a good chance the Mayor will put Jeff on soon. I'm encouraging Lola to stay. If she leaves we should have a list of candidates to replace her. 2) I asked Jeff to spearhead going to the CPC for funding to help historical properties. 3) Salem got a good grant to repair their cemeteries. Kelly has no problem seeking grants. We have to be careful fulfilling our oversight responsibilities of the cemeteries. I'll have her resend the proposal.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting date is scheduled for March 19th at 6:00 pm at the Geo. Peabody House & Civic Center, 205 Washington Street.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 6:35 p.m.: Dave Cronin/Cheryl Millard