

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**LANCASTER HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**January 28, 2019**

A meeting of the Lancaster Historical Commission (LHC) was held on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the LHC office on the upper level of the Prescott Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marcia Jakubowicz, Heather Lennon, Jay Moody, Joy Peach, Joan Richards, Mark Schryver, Michael Sczerzen, Karen Silverthorn

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Amy Brown, Jean Watson

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Heather Lennon called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**MEETING MINUTES:**

The minutes of the December 18, 2018 meeting were read and a motion to approve them was made by Michael Sczerzen. Jay Moody seconded the motion, a vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

The minutes of the "Working Meeting" of January 2, 2019 were read and corrections were made. A motion to approve them was made by Michael Sczerzen. Marcia Jakubowicz seconded the motion, a vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

**ANNUAL REPORT DRAFT:**

Heather Lennon distributed the Annual Report draft. Members suggested edits and additions. Joan Richards then proposed that an updated draft be sent out to members via e-mail. Then, if nothing further would be needed, the report would be sent to the Town Clerk as she had requested for inclusion in the upcoming Town Annual Report. Karen Silverthorn moved that this plan be followed. Joan Richards seconded the motion, a vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON FOR 2019:**

During discussion Heather Lennon expressed interest in continuing as LHC Chair in 2019. Michael Sczerzen made a motion to nominate her. Mark Schryver seconded it, a vote was called for and it carried unanimously. The members congratulated and thanked Heather for her leadership and hard work.

**GOODRIDGE BROOK:**

Heather Lennon gave an update on recent meetings held by the ZBA and Sewer District. LHC members remain very concerned about issues related to safety, adequate water supply and sewerage service if this project gets approved. It was reported that the Conservation Commission has requested that testing be done in the spring relating to the wetland in the proposed project area.

**HAWTHORN HILL:**

Heather Lennon reported that letters had been sent from the LHC to the Trustees of Reservations, Historic New England and the MHC regarding the "at risk" nature of the Hawthorn Hill property at 679 George Hill Road in South Lancaster. Further, she contacted real estate agent Dan Loring of Keller-Williams to request a tour of 679 George Hill Road to take pictures of the buildings and grounds to create a FORM B inventory file on the property for the LHC files and to share with the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) as they had requested. She is waiting for Loring to get back to her with an appointment time.

LHC MINUTES 1-28-19 APPROVED

The LHC will keep abreast of any offers which are made and, hopefully, will include a restoration of the mansion. Lennon also sent a memorandum to Michael Antonellis, the new Town Planner, relating to LHC concerns about this property. He was requested to keep the LHC in the communication loop regarding any pertinent requests that come into his office. He sent the LHC a response indicating that he would.

**HAWTHORNE HILL ESTATES:**

**Note:** The former Marietta Poras property on George Hill that is currently being developed by Gary Melanson is being marketed as “Hawthorne Hill Estates”. Though the names are similar, it is separate from and should not be confused with the estate at 679 George Hill Road.

**EXHIBIT ROOM:**

The Hosmer Dollhouse Project is moving forward and the Lancaster Historical Society (LHS) has contracted with Chris Brown to do restoration and cleaning of the Parksons/Chandler dollhouse. The work should be completed soon.

**DISPLAY CASES:**

Heather Lennon has contacted Andrew Lane of W.B. Mason (the town’s contracted office supplier) relating to the selection of new display cases. As soon as the details are complete, specific recommendations will be made to the LHC.

**PROJECT FOOTSTONE:**

Heather Lennon reported that she had been approached by a Lancaster resident who is interested in cleaning gravestones in the Middle Cemetery (MC). Kevin Bartlett has given his written approval and the work will commence in the spring. The LHC also has plans to have a workday in the spring to upright and reposition stones that have become dislodged over time. Marcia Jakubowicz and volunteer Ashley Driscoll will continue with this project they began several months ago.

**HISTORIC MARKERS:**

Amy Brown spoke with Heather Lennon and submitted a list of missing markers. LHC members suggested publishing the list to distribute to the public as a way of getting back some of the markers that have gone missing through the years. This will become a work in progress.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was by made by Joan Richards at 7:30 pm. Mark Schryver seconded the motion, a vote was called for and it carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Richards, Recorder for the meeting