TOWN OF LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION Meeting Minutes January 27, 2021

Members Present: Liz Colley, Marcia Jakubowicz, Heather Lennon, Joy Peach, Joan

Richards, Mark Schryver

Members Absent:

Amy Brown, Karen Silverthorn, Jean Watson

Guest:

Roy Mirabito

Call to Order:

Chairperson Lennon called the meeting (via **ZOOM**) to order at 5:07 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of December 30, 2020 were approved unanimously as corrected on a motion was made by Marcia Jakubowicz and seconded by Joan Richards.

Economic Development Committee (EDC):

Roy Mirabito presented background information on a new Advisory Board which has been approved by the Board of Selectmen (BOS). Presently, there are two members but plans are to have seven. The EDC will work with the Town Planner (TP) when one is hired. Roy will represent the Planning Board (PB) and additional members are sought from the Conservation Commission (ConCom) and the Lancaster Historical Commission (LHC). The mission and goals of the EDC were discussed as were concerns with development along the Old Union Turnpike in North Lancaster and the former Atlantic Union College (AUC) core campus. Heather Lennon thanked Roy for his presentation and the need for LHC representation will be pursued.

Election of Chairperson:

Heather Lennon was unanimously re-elected as Chairperson for 2021 on a motion made by Joan Richards and seconded by Mark Schryver. No other nominations were made.

Devens South Post Update:

Joan Richards reported that she contacted the ConCom agent, David Koonce and was updated on the proposed changes to the training grounds and resulting environmental impacts. Discussions with National Guard representative are ongoing. The quality of life impact on present day Lancastrian abutters remains to be seen. Joan pointed out that further changes to the range will not further impact the historical assets of that area as they were destroyed long ago when the land was taken over in 1938 and onward.

Status of Significant Property Developments/Sales in Lancaster:

No updates were reported.

Special Project Reports:

A. **Grant Applications:** Chairperson Lennon reported that she received notification from Lancaster Cultural Council (LCC) that one of two grant applications recently submitted by the Lancaster Historical Society (LHS) was rejected. The LCC did not specify which application was rejected but the information will be reported when available and grant money will be applied for elsewhere.

B. Historical Site Maps:

Amy Brown and Heather Lennon continue to work on the creation of what is hoped will be a series of themed maps on Lancaster's many historical sites for both residents and visitors.

Correspondence:

A. Recent demolition at 13 Neck Road (Dr. Calvin Carter House circa 1840):

Heather Lennon sent a letter to property owner John Cherubini and will send a copy to the LHC members for their files.

B. Access to Rowlandson Garrison Site Property (owned by Stephen Quill):

Heather Lennon sent a letter of inquiry to property owner Stephen Quill who responded that the property is private and no invitations should be made to the public to visit the site which can also be viewed from the nearby sidewalk. The Quill Family plans to keep the land in their family as private property. Heather Lennon reported to members that the GPS coordinates have been determined so the exact location of the garrison will not be lost.

Future Meeting Date:

The next meeting of the LHC is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 5:00 pm via Zoom.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark Schryver. It was seconded by Marcia Jakubowicz and carried unanimously. The meeting ended at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Richards, Recorder for the Meeting.