

Lancaster Historical Commission (LHC)
Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2022
via ZOOM

Present:

Heather Lennon, Marcia Jakubowicz, Joan Richards, Karen Silverthorn

Absent:

Amy Brown, Mark Schryver, and Jean Watson (Joy Peach deceased)

Guest:

Jay Moody

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Chairperson Lennon

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of August 31, 2022 meeting were read and approved unanimously as corrected on a motion made by Karen Silverthorn and seconded by Marcia Jakubowicz.

Members Update:

Heather Lennon reported that Joy Peach has passed away, and her family would have a graveside service for her Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at West Cemetery in Bolton Mass. It was the consensus of members to provide a plant for Joy's grave. The Town Administrator (TA) and Town Clerk will be notified of her passing for the record and the LHC vacancy will be discussed at the next meeting.

Survey & Planning Grant for Four Historic Cemeteries:

Heather Lennon said she has spoken with the TA and the contact person at the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) regarding the re-issuing of the RFQ as the deadline came and went without a bid. It was suggested that the consulting firm that did the two previous cemeteries in 2019 would bid during the second round which will be advertised soon.

Hazardous Tree Removal:

Heather Lennon said she received a quote for Phase Three completion of the tree removal in Middle Cemetery (MC) from Ike Kilbourn. Kevin Bartlett will be approached again regarding this. Discussion also included making the MC a focal point for restoration and improvement in anticipation of the Semiquincentennial observance of American independence in 2026. No less than thirty-seven Revolutionary War veterans are buried in the MC This will be pursued.

Significant Property Developments Lancaster:

Chairperson Lennon reported that she had written to the late Dr. Chuilli's daughter regarding the Tudor-styled mansion built by John Thayer's family seeking permission to take photographs of the interior of the mansion (once it is cleaned out) but has not heard back from her.

No further information has been reported on the sale of the AUC buildings.

No further information is available related to the Old Common property currently under discussion for transfer from the state to the town.

Panels Project:

Members are awaiting an update from John Farnsworth regarding this project.

Exhibit Room:

The LHS and LHC have an Open House scheduled for Sunday, October 2, 2022, at 2 p.m. in the Prescott Building. Thanks in advance was extended to all those who worked to prepare for this event.

Community Preservation Committee: (CPC):

Karen Silverthorn reported that an application is available on the CPC website and can be downloaded. The LHC will discuss recommendations at the next meeting. Discussion included the idea of working with Freedom's Way when planning for the nation's 250th.

Other Business:

- A. Chairperson Lennon raised a question regarding new accessions and guidelines for ownership designations – LHC or LHS? Discussion regarding this will be pursued at the next meeting.
- B. Changing the meeting hour from 5 pm to 7 pm was also discussed and will be taken up at the next meeting.

Future Meeting Date and Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 pm on a motion made by Karen Silverthorn and seconded by Marcia Jakubowicz. It carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Richards, Recorder for the Meeting