**Sturbridge Historical Commission July 13, 2017 Minutes**

Attendance: Barbara Search, Chair; Richard Volpe, V. Chair; Cathy Zavistoski, Clerk

Absent: Bailey Applegate

Call to Order: 6:15 p.m.

Vote on corrected May 16th minutes

C Zavistoski – motion to accept

B Search – 2nd

Vote – all approved

Vote on corrected June 7th minutes

R Volpe – motion to accept

B Search – 2nd

Vote – all approved

B Search – to have a table at their Harvest Festival (October – need to verify exact date) it’s $75 dollars – have to commit to be there both days.

HC would have to pay to put a legal notice in the local paper regarding Phase II survey funded with MHC matching grant. Public notice that survey is being done (legal notice). Need to check cost.

Need to make sure all HC meeting minutes are approved at the next meeting (those that have not been approved). Then need to get posted on town website.

Need to review agenda for March 23rd – verify if agenda included items discussed after the vote.

Mass Historical Commission funded survey– prior to July 4th week B Search received manual. Was able to get paperwork for RFP completed. They want town to waive insurance for contractors. Town doesn’t want to. RFP must be clear that contractors must have their own insurance.

review Dowdy Rd Allen Farm House survey

R Volpe – HC needs to be involved from the beginning of development process, instead of after town meeting and zoning/building boards have met.

CPC – contractor/developer pitched to CPC 24 houses then upped to 50.

B Search – will talk to Jean about being involved in development processes earlier.

R Volpe – otherwise holding up development when developer could have taken things into account earlier. Then they don’t face up to a year delay.

Snellville School/Senior Center windows– Danny Matte (facilities) – get preservation contractors & put them in touch with Matte.

Need to sell “historically preserved” windows to public. If cost around $28k it might be ok, but if it is around $40k it might be a problem (with residents/town).

R Volpe – Need to find someone to get a quote & references. Need an updated survey including Snellville.

B Search – need feedback – might be able to get Snellville on National Register.

R Volpe – need quote for windows to take to Board of Selectmen.

B Search – Senior Center has $35k for a needs assessment to either fix place up or move to another location. They are having a “needs study” done. Even if they decide to move it would take years to do. Will still be in Snellville for that time.

R Volpe – replacement windows were approved at Town Meeting without anyone talking to HC. HC needs to be included sooner.

B Search – Need to get survey done on Snellville School/Senior Center . To then go to Board of Selectmen to tell them we need to review building to see if it is considered historical.

Minuteman carving

B Search – attach relief directly to wall or attach something to the wall to then slide **the relief** in. Need to secure it so it cannot be stolen. Leon to talk to Danny Matte – wants to see it – needs the size & weight to decide how to secure.

Get Minuteman information printed up – put in frame to hang next to relief.

R Volpe – identified 2 people from Sturbridge who were officially Minutemen. 19 from Sturbridge fought in the war, but can only confirm 2 were minutemen in the Battle of Lexington. Unclear what the status was of the other ones. Will put together something to review.

B Search – Historic Building Appreciation program– Talk to Selectmen They meet 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

R Volpe – by next week will send a PowerPoint presentation to B Search with what could be presented to Board of Selectmen.

R Volpe – Dowdy Farm House is from 1750. Need to know these things before developer’s plans are approved. What about Blackington building?

B Search – regarding the wheelchair access modifications HC has no say.

Schedule next meeting for August 8th at 6pm.

R Volpe – motion to adjourn

C Zavistoski – 2nd

Vote – all approve

Adjourned 7:14pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Zavistoski, Historical Commission