

MEETING NOTICE

WESTPORT HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

MONDAY
November 5, 2018
6:00 PM

TOWN HALL BASEMENT
816 MAIN ROAD

GENERAL MEETING



SIGNATURE

AGENDA

6:00 PM
Minutes of September 10, 2018
Treasurer's Report

General Business

1. Monitors' reports
2. Certificates of non-applicability
3. New business

Next meeting – December 3, 2018

Rud Lawrence
Chair

DATE/TIME
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Westport Historical Commission

Meeting of Nov. 5, 2018

Chair Rud Lawrence opened the meeting in the basement meeting room at Town Hall at 6 p.m.

Present: Members Caroline Bolter (CB), Janet Jones (JJ), Geraldine Millham (GM), Bill Kendall (BK); Chair Rud Lawrence (RL), Michael Walden (MW), David Paddock (DP) . **Absent:** Henry Swan (HS), alternate Beverly Schuch. **Other attendees:** Charlie Appleton, WRWA; Yvonne Barr, Westport Historical Society.

1. Minutes: After reviewing the minutes of the Sept. 10, 2018 meeting, JJ made a motion to approve them as submitted, seconded by BK. The vote was unanimous, 7-0.

2. Treasurer's Report: GM presented a treasurer's report as of Nov. 2, with a motion to accept as submitted coming from BK, seconded by DP; the vote was unanimous. GM also reported preparation of the commission's budget request for Fiscal Year 2020 with the Board of Selectmen, containing a small increase for postage; a motion to approve the request came from BK, seconded by DP, and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Monitor's Reports: None.

4. Certificates of Non-Applicability: CB reported issuing a certificate for the roof replacement on the Tripp House (John & Carol Moriarty, 1933 Main Road); and reported a filing from Julia Brown for a window replacement project at 1853 Main Road.

5. New Business: Charlie Appleton, project manager for the Westport River Watershed Alliance rehab and renovation of the Head Garage, made a presentation on revised plans for the building. With the proposed work some \$400,000 over budget, the WRWA redesigned the project, removing proposed exterior stairway to the second floor and returning closer to the original footprint. Changes include asphalt shingles, new vinyl clad windows (400 Series), two new stairways, elevator, two third floor dormers with solar panels, composting toilet on the first floor. It was noted that the commission must review and endorse the plans because Community Preservation Act funding will be sought for the project. There was some discussion of the proposed replacement windows, roofing and trim colors, and solar panel installation; DP made a motion to endorse the revised plans, seconded by CB, and approved by unanimous vote.

Yvonne Barr, vice president of the Westport Historical Society, was present to submit a report on the Bell School and Handy House properties, and other society activities. She noted the society will be seeking CPA funding for repairs to the bell tower, roof, and sills at the Bell School; the proposed small addition to the rear of the schoolhouse for a secure archives room has been put on hold. By general agreement, it was confirmed that GM, BK and MW will serve on the Bell School project subcommittee.

There was also some debate over the ownership of the Wolf Pit School and the land the building sits on; MW was assigned to investigate the status of the building and the public access issue. GM noted there is more than \$7,000 in the school gift account, and indicated the town has never tried to exercise control over the building. GM and MW will check commission files on the school and report back on their findings.

RL indicated there is a list of new materials available for historic work projects and suggested a subcommittee be appointed to study and report on them. BK volunteered to undertake that effort. It was noted that some new residents of the Point are not familiar with the historic district rules and regulations, and it was suggested an educational campaign should be undertaken to distribute the guidelines, or notify property owners that the guidelines are posted on the commission's web page.

GM reported that the commission's annual visit to the Oscar Palmer Farm was conducted in September, with the two small outbuildings rebuilt and looking very nice. Plans for a new corn crib have already been approved, and the owners are planning to reshingle the milk shed, using like materials.

With no further business on the agenda, a motion to adjourn came from JJ at 7:12 p.m., and was seconded by DP. The vote was unanimous.

WESTPORT HISTORICAL COMMISSION



WESTPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

11.5.18

WESTPORT HISTORICAL COMMISSION TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF 11.2.18

The WHC's General Expense account balance total to date is \$1,049.75

01-x-600-691-5100-5106 clerk, PT \$0

01-x-600-691-5700-5305 advertising \$168.50

01-x-600-691-5700-5342 postage \$

01-x-600-691-5700-5420 office supplies \$25

01-x-600-691-5700-5421 printing expenses \$200

01-x-600-691-5700-5311 professional services \$656.25

the WHC Revenue account balance to date is \$50

01-x-015-691-4320-4031

the WHC Trust account balance to date is \$16,141.46

82-x-901-499-2370-5700

the Town Farm Expense account balance to date is \$1,500

1-x-100-198-5700-5781

the Town Farm Trust account balance to date is \$8,393.80

82-x-3291-2344

the Wolf Pit School Trust account balance to date is \$7,043.37

82-x-3291-2380

Geraldine Millham

Treasurer WHC



9.24.18

OSCAR PALMER FARM ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT

On September 24th at 1 pm two members of the WHC Oscar Palmer Farm sub committee (Bill Kendall and Geraldine Millham) met with Norm Anderson and Laurie Marinone, owners, at the Oscar Palmer Farm for the annual walk-through of the buildings.

Since the house is complete and needs no further inspection at this time we surveyed the two small out-buildings that Norm has built to replace the former two buildings which were rotten beyond saving. The new buildings are near replicas of the former with the exception of some small windows on their west walls and a door on the south end of the southern most building.

We also viewed the existing foundation/s for WHC approved but yet-to-be-built corn crib. These old foundations will be removed and the new crib will be set up on granite posts.

Norm and Laurie also reported that they plan to reshingle the milk shed and replace a window there, like for like.

Geraldine Millham
WHC

REPORT TO THE WESTPORT HISTORIC COMMISSION

November 5, 2018

The Westport Historical Society closed the Handy House for the season on October 31. The final event was a Halloween party for children which utilized nearly every room in the Handy House with an activity. Although postponed because of rain, there were still about 200 attendees. The previous month had the Artisan Fair with some rooms used for demonstrations, and the remaining rooms continued the agricultural and water themes for viewing; there were about 800 who attended, due in large part to the expanded parking facilities. The new parking area provides parking for at least 40 cars, and allows the lot near the entrance to the Handy House to be used for multiple handicap parking spaces – more than we are required by law to have, and most were in use during the Artisan Fair.

The Barn has been used not only to provide restrooms, but also to support activities that require running water, refrigeration, and power for caterers' vehicles, as well as storage. The response from the public to the building has been very positive.

New signage designed with WHC approval allowed visitors to identify parking, handicap parking, restrooms, and the new entry to Handy House. This new entry on the Hix Bridge Road side allows a more normative experience in the introduction of the house and for better viewing of the old kitchen. There were no changes to any of the structure or interior this year. We do plan window repairs in the coming months, and in the future, a new roof, but this is unlikely for at least a year.

Attention to any garden or plantings has been delayed because of the parking area construction and the attention to appropriate plantings associated with that construction. The plantings are not complete but should begin in the next few days. In coming months, we anticipate the building of a trail as an Eagle Scout project, leading from the parking lot into the wooded area which will utilize the natural terrain and serve as access to the biota which is difficult at present. This will be particularly useful as we

begin to develop programs which will involve traditional Wampanoag herbs and foods. As plans for this path evolve, we will share them with the WHC.

The Bell School had about 300 visitors from the Westport schools, and about 50 random visitors consulting the archives or viewing the school. At the School, we plan to address the troubled foundations, repair of the belfry and a new wooden shingle roof, as well as the stage area which has many problems, both in serving as the storage area for our collection, and the leaking roof above it. There are also areas that require some repair and paint. We have a gift from an anonymous donor who will provide the foundation repairs in the coming months, and we will be applying to CPC for the belfry and roof which we hope to be able to do next year. The stage area requires planning that has been more complex than anticipated and lagged due to the schedule of appropriate architects. This may involve some alteration to the stage lean-to to accommodate our needs. We will be working with the WHC committee as planning begins over the next few months.