

HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION

Minutes

January 14, 2020

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The January 14, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Historic Properties Commission was called to order by Chairman John O'Neill at 7:05 p.m.

Present: John O'Neill, Debra Walters, Eileen Olynciw, Patrick Crotty, Mark Olynciw (Alt), Robert Nye (Alt).

Absent: Vivian Brooks.

Guest: Jim Lundborg.

Appointment of Alternate: M. Olynciw for V. Brooks.

Minutes: Motion by J. O'Neill, seconded by M. Olynciw, to approve the Minutes of the November 12, 2019, Annual Meeting.

Voting in favor: Unanimous.

Cemeteries: E. Olynciw making steady progress with her study of neglected cemeteries, anticipating project completion this summer. Chrm. O'Neill reiterated the need for an organization entirely separate from the commission and officially recognized by the town to assume responsibility for neglected cemeteries, primarily Gorton, Durfey Hill, and Church/Williams. Photos of the three were presented to the selectmen in December in an effort to raise their awareness of the problem and to remind them that they need to take some responsibility. P. Crotty announced that his cemetery scrapbook of professional quality photographs and other relevant information will be donated to the library in the coming days. He is also putting together a display in one of the cases at Town Hall of veteran headstones.

Oil Mill District: Municipal Historian R. Nye finding that more time than anticipated is being expended on the National Register nomination draft review. Submission to SHPO expected by the end of summer if not sooner.

Cohanzie School: For sale. Demolition by neglect.

Secchiaroli Barn: Two large holes in the roof. Demolition by neglect.

Jordan Mill Park: The display part of the sign needs to be removed and properly reinstalled.

Other: May is National Preservation Month. Interest expressed in a presentation on neglected cemeteries early in the month. The event would also be an opportunity to sign up volunteers for a clean-up of a specific cemetery on a scheduled day. It is hoped that this could be first step toward forming an association (see above).

Adjournment: Motion by E. Olynciw, seconded by M. Olynciw to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Voting in favor: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Nye, Secretary/Treasurer & Municipal Historian

