

Wales Historical Commission
Wales, Massachusetts 01081

Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, October 21, 2023

Time: 10:00AM

Location: 3 Main Street, Old Town Hall First Floor

Present: Rod Kincaid, Robyn Chrabasz, Lynn Greene, Rebecca (Becky) Smith (called in).

Members Absent: Carolyn Boehne.

Public: Ann Chrabasz, Ted Wysocki, Peter Arabolis.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:04AM.

Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: To approve the meeting minutes from 9/9/2023 as amended. Motion made by Kincaid, seconded by Greene. 3-0-0. Motion Passed.

Correspondence: None.

Building Updates: Sign in sheet for the building has been placed for use.

Cultural Council: Rod has purchased the equipment for conversions of Upside Down shows and others.

Collection Updates: Group discussed re-arranging the collection to setup the videos on the upper level. Group discussed the Squier collection, and perhaps sorting Monson versus Wales historical items. Group also discussed getting archive boxes from Town Hall for the assessor's ledgers in the cabinet so that the cabinet can be moved.

Cemetery Walk: Given the weather, there is no walk today. Maybe can happen with 11/11 opening with Veteran's Day.

Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC) Updates: Robyn shared that the Board of Selectmen contracted PVPC to do an open space and recreation plan and has tasked the MPIC with executing the plan. Public participation will be part of the planning process.

Feasibility Project: On October 18th, the design team was at Old Town Hall for their existing conditions evaluation. The structural engineer found some undermined and bulging foundation, concerns with the sill and bulging/leaking siding, and a squirrel in the attic. They requested we not have any people or loads on the second floor. Their formal report(s) and schedule for the project will follow.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Wysocki shared information about the Freedom Trail, Shaw University, and King Phillips Highway as they all may relate to Wales.

Town Clerk gave us wood trim memory item from Senior Center groundbreaking – and group gave it to Lynn to bring to the Senior Center.

Peter Arabolis was brought in by Lynn to discuss the safe and how to get into it. Peter will provide the Commission with an estimated cost. Unfortunately, the mechanism is damaged and the access will be somewhat invasive.

Cultural Council 2024: Rita Parisi has applied directly to the Cultural Council for this year to run the “Women of 1776” as recommended to the Commission by Ann Chrabasz. Target event date is currently Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 10AM, location to be determined.

Next meeting will be determined later.

MOTION: To adjourn made at 11:07AM. Motion made by Greene, seconded by Chrabasz. All in favor, Motion Passed.

DATE APPROVED: December 15, 2023

Approved