

Ipswich Historical Commission
May 9, 2022
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members: present: Joe Bourneuf, Linda Grimes, Gordon Harris, Rachel Meyer, Steve Miles
Christine Sarantopoulos, Laura Gresh
Ethan Parsons of Director of Planning Department
Also attending Isaac Ross

April minutes by Linda Grimes in Laura's absence.

Steve motioned to accept. Rachel seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Update of Mill Strike Plaque

Isaac Ross wrote press release that appeared in *The Local News* re: the Mill Strike event planned for on evening of June 10th.

Isaac has a friend at The Boston Globe who he will contact. He also will send the press release to *The Chronicle*, *Salem News*, and place on *IHC Facebook page* and *EBBSC's social media*.

The plan is to gather at the *Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church* at 6:45 p.m.

At 7 p.m. Gordon will present a slide show at the church. This will be followed by a group procession to the mural, then proceeding to corner of Saltonstall and Market Street where plaque is located. Christine will then speak at the site and place red roses and wheat at the plaque here. This will be followed by a reception at the Greek Church.

Multiple nationalities worked in the Ipswich mills including large populations of Polish, French Canadians, Irish and Italian. There will be flags to represent each of these countries.

Isaac will be creating a map to follow and itinerary for guests.

Future IHC Priorities

Steve said he attended DPW meetings and met with DPW on behalf of the IHC regarding the High Street Project. The IHC proposed hiring a landscape planner as part of the design process.

Ethan said the High Street Project is on hold and that we should stay ahead by planning our priorities and staying ahead of the process. We should assign a liaison/s for each project and plan to meet with boards in the process.

Steve said we should let Planning Board and DPW know what is important.

Gordon said Section 106 notifies the IHC and asks for comments.

Linda suggested letting Keri Bates know our concerns.

Ethan suggested we all get involved.

Steve asked when the DPW budget is discussed and approved. He suggested meeting with Rick Clark (DPW) and the Town Manager to get a list of the infrastructure projects are coming up.

Gordon said the IHC should set standards/guidelines for the town administrators to refer to when a project comes up. Gordon, Steve and Laura agreed to meet and put together standards.

Gordon reminded members that the IHC's role is to protect and preserve the town's historic assets and enforce the demolition delay by-law.

Library plans to replace the windows.

Gordon stated that the Library is located within the APD and under the by-law if any changes are proposed to the exterior of the Library building, a consult with the APD should occur. This includes replacing historic windows. This will be brought to APD's attention so they can comment. Note: the APD bylaw recommends but doesn't require an advisory review when windows are replaced.

Also suggested was contacting Janet Craft of the Shade and Beautification Committee. Steve and Joe agreed to contact her.

Ethan said only if we are notified when these projects happen, we can comment.

Joe asked if IHC members might want to subscribe to Mass. Historical Commission listserv, which posts questions, discussions, and workshops of interest. If so, let him know.

Other Business

Ethan said he continues to work on a new hire for open position.

Ethan notified us that Chris Morse and Jamie Novak have resigned from IHC. With these resignations, Gordon will be a full voting member again rather than an alternate.

Rachel said she would like Indigenous People's Day to be on the agenda next month.

It was mentioned Alysea Gouderez created 3D scans of many of Ipswich's historic gravestones as well as other important items in town.

Laura motioned to adjourn. Steve seconded the motion. All voted in favor
Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Minutes by:
Laura Gresh

Minutes approved by the Historical Commission on June 13, 2022.