

## THE IPSWICH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD, October 16, 2023

**Officers:** Mariana Ovnic, Laura Gresh, Lindsay Randall

**Officers Absent:** Rachel Meyer

**Commissioners:** Gordon Harris, Stephen Miles

**Planning Department:** Andrea Bates

**Guest:** None

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in Town Hall Room C.

- I. Citizen Queries
  - a. None
  
- II. Survey master plan research & MHC survey grant planning
  - a. Andrea B. presented the idea of applying for an MHS Survey & Planning grant to ensure our historical resources are identified in MACRIS and more integrated into our planning initiatives. Discussion ensued.
  - b. Andrea B. and Mariana O. have spoken with Billerica, Marblehead, and Nantucket about their Survey & Planning grants regarding the process and projects. Will be talking with Sudbury and MHC in the coming days and weeks.
  - c. The idea is to move forward with a Survey Master Plan.
  - d. **Motion 2023.10.1** Gordon H. moved that we request up to \$15,000 for the Survey Master Plan. Lindsay R. seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
  
- III. Historic assets in downtown economic development
  - a. There is difficulty in getting everyone who is a player in Downtown on the same page regarding historic preservation and its connection to economic development. Discussion ensued.
  
- IV. Preservation Agreements
  - a. Stephen M. shared his preservation agreement with Jen Doherty at MHC. There were some issues regarding the language in his agreement. Discussion ensued
  - b. Based on issues raised from MHC the concern now is about all our Preservation Agreements and if they are all invalid (MGL Chapter 184, Section 27 and MGL Chapter 184, Section 31-33)
  
- V. Budget/funding for internships
  - a. Stephen M. shared an overview of the presentation he will be making at the upcoming Boston University Preservation Studies Internship Summit - 2023. Discussion ensued.
  
- VI. Joint meeting with APDC

- a. If the IHC wants to undertake a Survey Master Plan, it makes sense to talk more consistently with the APDC to talk about joint priorities and collaboration. Everyone was interested in this idea. Discussion ensued.
- VII. Greenwood Farm site visit
  - a. The Trustees of the Reservation reached out about the Greenwood Farm marsh restoration project and issued an open invitation to visit on Friday, October 27, 2023 at 10 a.m.
- VIII. Adopt minutes
  - a. **Motion 2023.10.2** Gordon moved to accept the September meeting minutes, as amended. Mariana seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- IX. New business
  - a. Laura G. brought up the plaque for the Town Wharf, which had stalled for years for various reasons. The question is whether one plaque could be made and installed while Town Wharf is under construction due to the upcoming Water project. Discussion ensued.
  - b. The Ipswich River Dam project was raised. Discussion ensued.
  - c. 69 South Main Street is for sale, and it has a Preservation Agreement. Billerica Preservation Planner shared that they had different zoning requirements for historic preservation re: density, etc.
  - d. Preservation MA is holding a joint meeting with the EMHCC, WMHCC, CMHCC about cemetery preservation.
  - e. Trident Corp reached out about adding new antennas to the Methodist Church.
- X. Adjournment
  - a. **Motion 2023.10.3** Mariana O moved to adjourn the meeting. Lindsay R seconded to adjourn the October Historical Commission meeting at 9:22 pm. The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. The next meeting will be November 20, 2023

Meeting minutes approved 11/20/23.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lindsay Randall  
Clerk/Secretary