

APPROVED

Northbridge Historical Commission

Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Present: M. Deweerd, C. Gagner, C. Johnson, D. Potty, K. Warchol

Approval of Minutes – June 28, 2023 – Motion made by D. Potty *“To Approve the Minutes of September 27, 2023”* Seconded by K. Warchol. Discussion – Mark recommended a correction. Motion carries unanimously to approve the minutes with the edit.

Downtown Crossing Historic District – Mark DeWeerd provided an update on the DCHD’s progress on creating a manual for members highlighting purpose and goals as well as operations and procedures. Mark will provide a copy to the NHC once it has been approved.

Cotton Mill Improvements – K. Warchol informed the Commission that the contractor has been selected and that paint samples will be provided for review. The Commission voted to support the final decision of the NHC reps (K. Warchol & C. Johnson) with the final selection of the paint to match the current window colors.

Whitin Family Reunion – C. Gagner updated the NHC on the Whitin Family Reunion held at the Alternatives and supported by NHS members C. Brouwer and C. Gagner. She informed the NHC that it was well attended and tours of some local houses as well as buildings were conducted.

Status of CPC application process – C. Johnson informed the NHC that (2) grants submitted by the NHS were approved in the “pre-application” phase. The final planning application grants are to be submitted by mid-October. The first is for an architectural and structural assessment and the second replacement of an oil burner for the Fletcher House. M. Deweerd stated that the DCHD was in support of these two grants.

Grant Opportunities – C. Johnson gave copies of a grant sponsored by the Veterans Association that may be of interest to the historical society and commission. C. Gagner expressed an interest in helping with the Veterans Association. Funding for this grant covers archival and documentation work as it relates to military history, etc. C. Johnson provided an overview of other grants available including the MASS and Local Cultural Councils

Riverwalk Map – C. Johnson reminded the NHC of the \$5K funding for a revised Riverwalk Map to include the Mumford River Walkway. She asked for volunteers. Dave Pickard was suggested as a key contact to coordinate efforts to create a subcommittee.

Historical signage – The status of the historical signage is ongoing regarding replacement, documentation, and funding.

Coming Events – K. Warchol will conduct a Walking Tour of the Whitinsville Historical District on November 4, 2023. It is free to all who participate.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Johnson
NHC Vice-Chairperson

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