

Meeting Minutes
of the
Sharon Historical Commission and Historic District Commission

February 14, 2024

This meeting was held via Zoom in accordance with the Governor's emergency declaration relative to public meetings.

In attendance: James Grasfield (Chair), David Martin (Vice Chair), Shirley Schofield, Donald Williams (voting), and Michaela Jergensen (Special Consultant to the SHC)

Guests attending: None

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:37 PM.

1. Approval of the Minutes for the 1/17/24 meeting

1. The Chair asked if there were any amendments or corrections to the minutes.
 - There were none.
2. *Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The SHC voted 4 – 0 (Grasfield, Martin, Schofield, Williams) to approve the motion.*

2. Approval of the Minutes from the 10/04/23 meeting

1. The Chair asked if there were any amendments or corrections to the minutes.
 - There were none.
2. *Mr. Martin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The SHC voted 4 – 0 (Grasfield, Martin, Schofield, Williams) to approve the motion.*

3. Updates on the road construction near the West Cemetery

1. The Chair reported on his conversation with Peter O'Cain regarding the wall and the standpipe near the entrance to the cemetery.
 - Mr. O'Cain will keep an eye on the developer's work to properly and historically protect the cemetery wall according to the plan that the SHC reached with the developer.
 - Mr. O'Cain would like to see it moved away from the cemetery entrance and the front wall of the cemetery as much as possible and will speak with the developer about this.
 - At the SHC's suggestion Mr. O'Cain will also review the placement of the traffic light poles near the cemetery to minimize their impact on the cemetery.

4. Update on the Historic Inventory Project

1. The Chair reported on the presentation and vote (4-1-2) before the CPC for funding for the project.
2. The SHC will need a second affirmative vote from the CPC at its next meeting on February 22, 2024 for approval.
3. Additional information will be presented to the CPC to bolster the support of the CPC.

5. Update on the establishment of a new Historic District

1. March 27, 2024 was tentatively chosen for the public meeting date for Historic District 4.
2. The Chair is consulting with the Massachusetts Historic Commission to determine the public notification requirements for the legal notice for the public meeting.
3. Regardless of the notification that are necessary within the proposed district, the SHC plans to notify the abutters directly by letter.
4. The Chair will be submitting the Preliminary Study Report in draft form to the SHC and the MHC in the next two weeks.

6. Review of the Cemetery Preservation Project

1. Mr. Williams and Ms. Schofield are working together to research and write the histories of three of the cemeteries.
2. The next CPP working group meeting will be held on February 29 at 1:00 PM.

7. Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting

1. Moose Hill Farmhouse: The SHC is developing a plan with the Audubon team for architectural salvage of the house prior to demolition.
2. 17 Chestnut Street: The Chair has informed the Building Inspector of the pending sale of the property. The SHC is working with the Town Counsel's office to make sure that the new owners will be obligated to honor the conditions of the Letter Agreement executed between the SHC and the present owner.
3. The next meeting of the SHC will be held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 7:30 PM via Zoom.

8. Adjournment

1. *Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. Mr. Martin seconded the motion. The SHC voted 3 – 0 (Grasfield, Martin, Williams) to approve the motion.*

Documents:

Meeting Minutes of the Sharon Historical Commission and Historic District Commission for January 17, 2024.

Meeting Minutes of the Sharon Historical Commission and Historic District Commission for October 4, 2023.