



TOWN OF GROTON
Historical Commission
173 Main Street Town Hall
Groton, Massachusetts 01450

Official Notice of a Public Meeting

MEETING MINUTES
Groton Historical Commission
September 19, 2012
Town Hall
1st Floor Small Conference Room

7:00 P.M. Call the Historical Commission Meeting to Order

In Attendance: Michael Roberts, George Wheatley, Michael Laterz, Allen King, Norma Garvin, Michael Danti. Guest: Fran Stanley (discussing the Fitch's Bridge Project)

• **Review previous meeting minutes**

• **Action Item Status**

- 1) M. Roberts will submit a proposal to the Community Preservation Commission (November 13 deadline) to obtain funds for the preservation/conservation of Groton's monuments. A phased project should be planned and implemented to preserve monuments starting with those in immediate need of conservation/preservation.
- 2) M. Roberts will prepare a report for the Selectmen on the Laterz-Wheatley Monument Survey.
- 3) G. Wheatley will compile a list of barns included in the Sandford Survey. Barns included in the Farm Survey should be included in this listing as well.
- 4) N. Garvin and M. Roberts will develop an exhibit for the Groton Public Library to promote the concept of Founder's Day.
- 5) M. Roberts will write a letter to the Greenway Committee supporting the demolition of Fitch's Bridge and the construction of a new pedestrian bridge on the same site that is stylistically in keeping with the earlier historic structure. This letter should specify that the HC has deemed Demolition Delay unnecessary.
- 6) M. Laterz will write an article for publication in local newspapers on the monument survey.

• **Barn Survey Proposal**

Members discussed the possibility of submitting a grant proposal to the CPC for funds to preserve Groton's monuments (see Action Items above). The HC is agreed such a proposal should be a high priority.

• **Documentation of Groton landmarks status.**

M. Laterz and G. Wheatley presented the results of their ongoing survey of monuments in the town.

- **Archaeology at the Boutwell House**

HC members discussed the possibility of an archaeological project in the backyard of the Boutwell House in spring or summer 2013. A key objective of this project would be to raise public awareness of Groton's historic assets and detailing archaeology's role in studying and preserving cultural heritage.

- **Open Session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting**

Fran Stanley discussed the Fitch's Bridge Project and the HC members discussed the issue of whether Demolition Delay was necessary. All members agreed it was not (see Action Items above), and M. Roberts agreed to write a letter to the Greenway Committee to this effect.

M. Danti presented his findings on Demolition Delay in Groton.

Allen King updated the HC on intentions to pursue a National Register nomination for the First Parish Church.

9:00 P.M. Meeting adjourned