

Meeting Minutes
Groton Historical Commission
Groton Town Hall
July 26, 2018

Present; Michael Danti, Michael LaTerz, George Wheatley, Paul Keen, Bob DeGroot

Guests; Edie, Berta, Ellen Hargraves

1. Meeting called to order at 703PM

2. Prescott House discussion: Edie proposes handling Prescott House like Williams Barn was. Berta has talked to Ex Dir of Indian Hill...the longer the building stands, the more issues it will have. Berta suggests creating a museum in the main house.

Berta asks about CPA funding for preservation. Indicates that there is a groundswell of support to preserve this home. Discussion around fund raising options for preservation.

3. Demo Delay discussion: Committee is preparing an article for Fall Town Meeting to increase the duration of the demo delay period. Current time period; 6 mos, is not adequate for HistComm to perform due diligence esp around historically sensitive parcels, buildings, etc. Committee agrees that Groton's current DD Bylaw is much shorter than the average township in The Commonwealth.

4. Fishbone property: Michael Danti has reviewed the sinkhole that has appeared on this property. Michael has suggested this was once subterranean storage. It has two distinct chambers, not a well.

6. Michael LaTerz asks to have this item removed. Matter is closed.

7. Prescott Stone update: George spoke to Town Manager and Tom Delaney.

Tree coming down next to Town Hall.

Placement of Prescott Stone discussion.

George will speak to Garside.

Will request a quote for filing a form w Planning Board , Moving Stone from existing stone wall on Farmer's Row (also documenting, removing, documenting new location.

8. Historic Preservation grants conversation is continued.

9. Historic Archives project update: Michael LaTerz is spearheading this. He has worked w GHS to advertise for volunteers to assist in archiving Town historic records. Planning to kick off project in August 2018.

New Business: Paul presents a letter from preservation consultant Lyn Smiledge regarding the Prescott Common. She suggests the comprehensive review which will be a continuation of the Community Wide Survey. It will cover Groton Common, Unitarian Common, Prescott Common, Town Common, and document all four.

Motion to adjourn was made by Paul Keen

Seconded by George Wheatley
Motion passes by 5-0 vote

Meeting adjourned at 905PM