

EAST LYME HISTORIC PROPERTIES COMMISSION MEETING
EAST LYME TOWN HALL
December 5, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: B. Johnson Low, Acting Chair, M. Christensen, D. Cunningham (ex-officio), Steve Marks-Hamilton, R. McCauley. Alternate members present: R. Waterman, B. Hobby, Maggi Prokop.

Meeting opened at 7:00PM

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS: None.

MINUTES: October 2017 minutes approved. Motion by R Waterman, second by B. Hobby. Unanimous

CORRESPONDENCE: B Hobby distributed copies of the Crescent Beach Self- Guided Tour document prepared by this neighborhood and we discussed the possibility of preparing – or encouraging other East Lyme neighborhoods to prepare – similar documents for public consumption.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Demolition Delay Order – B Low and B Hobby met with Joe Smith to simplify the language for this ordinance for passage by the Board of Selectmen. Burt and Joe offer this short proposed statement for a 30 day delay:

“ORDINANCE CONCERNING A WAITING PERIOD BEFORE DEMOLITION

Pursuant to CGS Sec. 29-406, the town of East Lyme hereby adopts a waiting period before granting a permit to demolish any building or structure or part thereof.

Upon submission to the Building Official of a permit to demolish per said statute, the applicant for said permit must notify the East Lyme Historic Properties Commission of its intent to demolish.

The Commission must within 30 days calendar review said application.

The Building Official may not approve said application until approval is provided by the Commission, or until the passage of 30 calendar days from the date of notification.”

R McCauley moved to amend this statement amended to replace all “must” or “may” with “shall.” M. Christensen seconded. Amendment and motion carried. Unanimous. Low and Hobby will now take this verbiage to First Selectman Nickerson.

- Archeological Survey Project – No Report
- Museum Management Software - B. Low has met with experts in this field who referred us to Florence Griswold Museum. Barb has also contacted Connecticut Humanities in this regard and will meet with them this month about East Lyme possibly participating with them in their museum management system development project.
- Bridge Art – S. Marks-Hamilton has talked with First Selectman Nickerson regarding moving forward with Alvin Sher’s proposed Niantic River Bridge art. D. Cunningham suggested Niantic Rotary for financial support if needed. Steve will inventory the art elements currently

FILED

Dec 13 2017 AT 9:45 AM/PM
R. Waterman
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

in storage. Alternate formats for presentation of the art elements were discussed in the event that Mr. Sher is no longer interested.

NEW BUSINESS

- Barb Johnson Low was unanimously elected Chairman with many thanks.
- Joan Bengtson was unanimously elected Clerk / Secretary with many thanks.
- It was established that this Commission will meet on the first Tuesday of each month for the calendar year 2018. Calendar will be submitted to the Town.
- M. Christensen reported on dates for publication of the Discover East Lyme calendar. Blurb is requested by December 22.

REPORTS

- Bike and BBQ – M. Christensen reported that using Smith Harris House as a base site this year worked well. Profits are being distributed with the entities involved.
- The Samuel Smith House – M. Christensen reported that southeast corner is being jacked up. BATTERY exterior sheathing is up. Clapboards are going up in January. The group raised about \$1000 from its November 26 Christmas Greens sale and open house and garnered a front page photo in the November 27 New London Day paper. Group is planning a Light Parade float for 2018.
- The Lee House – D. Waterman reported that the group is looking into using the Dr. Lee house for needed storage space.
- The Smith Harris House – M. Prokop reported that the House' Halloween Presentation with the Pine Grove Spiritualist Organization earned a Certificate of Commendation from the Connecticut Association for State and Local History! This month they will hold a wreath sale and an event with the Santa-figure Belsnickel.
- East Lyme Cemetery Association – Rod McCauley reported that the group is working on landscaping, weed whacking, tree trimming, and poison ivy remediation. M. Christensen is helping.
- Preservationists Pot Luck - Will be held at the Niantic Community Church on January 12, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM. Motion by R. McCauley. Second by D. Waterman.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Marks-Hamilton, Acting Secretary (bjl)