

FHC Meeting Minutes 10/12/2023

Members present: Mary Brown, Nicole Bruno, Travis Bowie, Osee Mallio, S.Chandler, Jackie Petrouski

*Due to there being a problem with the door lock the meeting began at 6:45 p.m. rather than the scheduled 6:30 p.m.

- I. Correspondence: No correspondence has been received.
- II. Minutes of the June 13, 2023 were reviewed at the September 14th meeting and submitted.
- III. Old Business
 - A. Assonet Pathway panel placement. Mary spoke with Jean Fox regarding the panel relocation. Jean asked if we could have the Town (Freetown) move the panel since the company who had installed it is no longer working in the area.
 - B. With regard to the painting of the schoolhouse. The painting of the outside of the schoolhouse has been completed.
 - C. Dick Goodwin, a carpenter who has worked on various historic homes in the area had provided an estimate (hourly). It has been approved and he will begin working on the windows. At the next meeting we will discuss and organize a list of priorities for the school house.
 - D. Spotlights have been installed at the bandstand. The direction of the spotlights may need to be adjusted.

Members will set up a time to meet after dark to review and check the lighting.

A light has been installed on the Town Informational sign, which has been very helpful.

Beaver Tree Service will be going by the Band Stand park area the next time they are in the area to evaluate the work to be done in order to create an estimate for arbor work on the two Locust trees in front of the bandstand.
 - E. Discussion of Historic signs to mark the Historic Districts. Mary asked members to look for examples of signs that could be appropriate for the identification of the Historic Districts in Freetown. Please bring photos or copies (found on line) to the next meeting.
- IV. New Business
 - A. RE #2 and #4 South Main St –

#2 South Main St. – Trees have been cut and the hole left by the previous foundation is being filled in a manner that seems inappropriate and unsafe. Chandler will ask the Building Inspector to check it.

#4 South Main St. - The FHC will draft a document with regard to the front façade fitting in with the historic nature of the area to keep it looking like a village. The FHC has agreed that preservation restrictions are to be placed on the property before it is sold.
 - B. #1 The Lane-

Mary went over the sequence of events regarding the FHC learning of the plans for #1 The Lane. The FIIC members had voiced their opinions on the variance being requested and of those who responded none were in favor of the variance (Osee Malio, S. Chandler, Jackie Petrouski, Travis

Bowie) A letter was drafted. The letter was signed by the secretary and submitted to the Zoning Board of Appeals on August 29, 2023.

Tonight copies of the letter were presented to members at this meeting.

Chandler made a motion to accept and support the letter sent/dated August 29, 2023 addressed to the Zoning Board of Appeals from the FHC. Travis seconded the motion. All members verbalized they were in favor.

- C. Four Corners Meeting – Presentation by Environmental Partners on options for the Assonet Four Corners.

All members felt the meeting was set up and presented well. There was ample time for input and questions by attendees. Speed was the biggest concern.

- D. The FHC will go back to having monthly meetings.

- E. Town Report Issues. Some pieces submitted for the Town Report were not included in the report.

- F. Chandler noted that the Building Inspector needs to have a decision on the selection of the Town Hall window replacement promptly. Members mentioned that they would like to see a full-size sample, it was difficult to make a decision based on the small-scale sample provided.

Members agreed that the windows in the upper floors area where there is a dropped ceiling should be painted black in the area that is above the ceiling line.

Chandler will find out how many windows total that there are in the townhall.

Chandler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Travis.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Nov 2, 2023.