

East Providence Historic District Commission Agenda
June 8, 2022, 7:00 pm

1) Call to order: 7:01 1st Deb, 2nd Tom

In attendance: Deb Ormerod, Hancy Moore, Eric Underhill, Tom Wazeka, Patrick Hanner, Planning Department

New members: Eric Underhill, Tom Wazeka

2) Approval of minutes: no minutes presented

3) New Business

a. Veteran's Memorial Parkway

- i. Nomination to National Park Service was never followed through in 1991
- ii. Old documents and nomination paperwork recently sent to DEM Director Terry Gray - no response of this meeting date; DEM needs to be the organization to renominate the Parkway to NPS
- iii. Parkway protected by Metropolitan Park Commission
- iv. Planning Department will contact NPS to inform them of what has to be done at this point

b. Discussion of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

- i) 4 total members at this time
- ii) Chair: leading the meeting; roll call of vote; signature on letters; Vice Chair - steps in when needed; 7 total positions - currently have 3 vacancies; Deb O - secretary; Nancy asked Pomham Lighthouse group to recruit new members; open positions were previously advertised in the EP Post and the City Facebook page - no response

c. Odd Fellow Hall

- i) City sold it over a year ago; renovations began (fixed roof, painted, some work inside) - renovations stalled
- ii) Planning dept will reach out to owners to ask about plans - plan was retail on 1st floor, office or residential on top floor

d. Union Primary

- i) purchase and sale agreement in effect - local architect - David Sisson; negotiations with church for parking; 6 residential units in the current building - no new building; once City removes oil tank in building, closing will be scheduled

e. Friends of Newman Cemetery

- i) recently held clean up with walking tour in May; good interest
- ii) what is Friends of Newman Cemetery under? Historical Society? City?
Possibly create memorandum of agreement with City - Planning Department will discuss with City Solicitor to explore possibility
- iii) group would like to: continue remove tress that are putting stones in danger of ruin, repair stones that have fallen over; continue cleaning stones; hand trim grass around stones; place markers to mark off sections; apply for grant

f) recruitment of new members

- i) D Ormerod will post on Facebook page to recruit new members

4) New Business

- a) Historical Society got letter from Army Corps of Engineering regarding identifying flood areas that could potentially affect historical buildings
- b) Caleb Williams House - located at Hunts Mills
 - i) Discussion with City with private citizen; meeting planned; study had previously done through grant for HDC that provided plans for a Welcome Center
- c) Tour of Pump House at Hunts Mills given to RI Preserve from Planning Department; RI Preserve also interested in Caleb Williams House
- d) Army Corps of Engineering- clean up at Rumford Rifle Range (behind Kimberly Rock Field at the end of Redland Ave) - cleaning up vegetation and soil remediation due to high levels of lead; P Hanner will share recent Powerpoint presentation
- e) School presentation given by Kathy Cavanaugh through grant obtained by HDC- P Hanner will find presentation and send location on City Web page
- f) Markers - EP Historical Society
 - i) Some new markers sent out; slow down over pandemic; City buildings should have plaques - P Hanner will follow up and send letter to Mayor; list needs to be generated of prominent city owned historical structures
- g) City applied for and received \$75,000 for signage; will be able to create 20 signs
- h) Keep Metacomet Green (KMG) attended meeting: Ann Tripel, Heather Andrade
 - i) Has done extensive research on Barrington Parkway; creating publications with research found and will share with interested groups; group is advocating for National Historic register nomination to go through

5. Next meeting: JULY 12,2022

6) Adjournment: 8:25; 1st Eric,2nd Tom