

East Providence Historic District Commission Minutes
November 8, 2023

In attendance: Deb Ormerod, Eric Underhill, Tom Warzeck, Kara Evans, Patrick Hanner-
Planning Department

- 1) Call to order: 6:38- 1st Deb, 2nd Eric
- 2) Correspondence - none
- 3) Approval of minutes: October 11, 2023: 1st Eric, 2nd Tom
- 4) New Business
 - a) Request for the City Council to require an archaeological survey for the former Metacomet Country Club
 - i) City can not require a survey unless owner submits request for permit; vote taken to support a survey 3-1; letter will be drafted and sent to Waterfront Commission and City Council
 - b) City-wide interpretive sign program
 - i) Location of signs presented; discussion about placement; recommendations from HDC for sign placement will be forwarded to design company
 - c) Newman Cemetery condition assessment and maintenance plan
 - i) Grant agreement signed; RFP will be drafted; scope of work will be shared with HDC members for review
 - d) Other Business
 - i) K. Evans attended required training; city has demolition guidelines; recommend discussion with City Council members representing Historic District (Rumford) about design guidelines; some communities have historic tax credits for houses in local historic districts
 - ii) Cultural Center community meeting
 - (1) Concern over plan presented; D Ormerod stated Lemuel Brown house and Pump House should be restored to accommodate cultural center before buildings are beyond repair; will be discussed at Historical Society meeting
 - (2) RFP will be re-released to renovate and open Pump House to working condition; at previous release 3 years ago, no one responded to take on the project; need DEM approval- last release did not get DEM approval
 - iii) There was a clean up recently at Newman Cemetery organized by some citizens; HDC has concerns about equipment used for clean up of grass, etc as well as cleaning supplies used (if any); recommend a sign be posted "Do Not Clean Stones without training" or some type of wording; DPW can create and install sign;

- iv) Patrick has meeting scheduled with City Solicitor and Barbara Znosko- looking for any further documentation; frequent calls to City Hall about burial requests in Littleneck Cemetery and Ancient Littleneck
- v) Historical Society has hosted gravestone cleaning sessions; can offer again

5) Next meeting: December 13, ,2023

6) Adjournment: 7:37, 1st Deb, 2nd Tom