

Princeton Historical Commission

Minutes of meeting: February 15, 2018

Members present: Matt Lindberg, Phil Mighdoll, Larry Todd (chair)

Meeting was called to order at 7: 00 p.m.

Larry welcomed visitors Carl Soderberg and Geoffrey Yaglou. Both are applicants for the position of Alternate Member.

Minutes of 1/18/18 meeting were approved. The minutes of the 2/1 meeting will be reviewed at our next meeting

Facilities Planning Committee.

As a member of that committee, Larry gave us an update on their progress. He believes that they will recommend that action on Bagg Hall will be on the ATM warrant. However, they haven't prepared a request of the Selectboard yet.

Princeton Reconnaissance Report.

Larry passed out copies for the members to read. He commented that it contained very useful information although somewhat dated.

Hidden Treasures program.

Larry described this state-wide program intended to recognize historic places in MA. We agreed that we should participate and offer the Meetinghouse Cemetery as our local treasure. Larry will develop a draft submittal.

We submitted our application by March 1 and selected to have the event on May 5 from 10:00 am to noon. The details of which other town committees might want to participate, how we'd host the event, what we might hand out, etc. will be discussed at a future PHC meeting.

Demolition permit sign-off.

We reviewed the role of the PHC in this process. Ours is to assess whether there's something of historical value that might be disturbed in the process. Then, we would conduct a soft dialog with the owners to gain their cooperation to preserve historical features. We have no

real authority - our roles is to work with the owners in the interest of historical preservation.

The PHC website.

The PHC website needs attention. Phil offered to help and will chat with Joyce. She will provide a CD of some historical pictures to be posted.

Election of PHC officers.

Postponed until our March meeting.

Candidate interviews.

Carl Soderberg recently purchased a historic home in Princeton. This home features plank framing - very unusual. As a former resident of Rutland, he knows what can be lost without some stewardship of the historical legacy of a town. He did some research and became intrigued and committed to historical preservation in Princeton. He has some academic background in historical preservation.

Geoffrey Yaglou has lived in Princeton since the 1960s and was exposed to much of Princeton's history. He did a lot of volunteer work and likes the small town flavor.

After the candidates left the meeting, the commission voted to recommend that the Selectboard offer the position of Alternate Member to Mr. Soderberg and voted not to recommend Mr. Yaglou.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next meeting is 3/21.

Submitted by *Phil Mighdoll*