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## Town of Fairhaven

Fairhaven, MA 02719

### HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fairhaven Fire Department meeting room  
146 Washington Street Fairhaven, MA 02719  
May 8, 2019

FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

**Attendance:** Chiarman Oliveira, MJ Carvalho, Suzan Galpin, Gary Lavalette, Marcus Ferro, Vicki Paquette

**Also present:** Paul Foley, Planning and Economic Development Director

Chairman Oliveira opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Ms. Carvalho made motion to approve the minutes of April 3, 2019 Mr. Ferro seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Oliveira read the financial report.

#### ACADEMY

Mr. Oliveira said the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) project is currently out to bid. The changes were sent to the architect. When a contractor is awarded Mr. Oliveira and project manager, Mark Rees will walk through with them to make sure the project is done with the changes that are specified.

At the May 4, 2019 town meeting the commission was awarded the shutter project from Community Preservation Committee (CPC). Chair will oversee the make sure that the most authentic material is used. Potentially the project could start soon after the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, 2019.

Mr. Lavalete said the front of the Academy building is starting to peel and there is water under the paint making it blister. Commission member Gail Isaksen will get her painter to come out and look at it and fix the blisters in the paint.

#### FIRE MUSEUM

At the Annual Town Meeting, May 4, 2019 the CPC application for the roof was approved on the Washington street fire station. Members discussed putting a color a little darker than what is currently on the roof, similar or the same as the roof at the Old Stone School house. The same contractor that worked on the roof at the old stone school will do this roof.

Mr. Oliveira and his son, Nick, painted the ceiling on Sunday at the spring street station and members of the call fire department will go there to paint the walls.

#### FORT

Mr. Oliveira told the members that the anchor has been installed at the entrance of the Fort. The crushed shells have been placed around it. The pillars have been placed at the entrance and the lawn has been aerated. Mr. Oliveira hopes the bunker work will be done soon and this will help with the drainage. The cement pad for the John Paul Jones gun was poured and once the cannon is moved it will

be facing the water. G.B. Knowles will try to get the lawn fertilizer and aerated and have the peastone placed inside the bunker. Mr. Oliveira will contact the Army Corps of Engineers for permission to have the contractor drive on the dike to bring the pea stone in.

#### **OLD STONE SCHOOL HOUSE**

Mr. Oliveira said the Old Stone School House could use some exterior maintenance including painting and gutters. Mr. Oliveira will get some estimates to have the exterior painted. Ms. Carvalho said she may know someone who could provide an estimate for painting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Oliveira mentioned to the members that at town hall some of the stairs now have non-skid treads on them for safety. Currently it is only on the stairs on the second level leading up to the east and west rooms and not the grand staircase. Chairman Oliveira is worried because these have a gritty surface to them and he feels this will get into everything once people start walking on them. Members feel the stairs have been there for over 100 years there has not been that many cases that any one has fallen. Chair would like the members to take a look and see what it looks like. Members don't want it to look industrial on the historical staircase. The Commission can give some guidance to Mr. Rees as to what they think but ultimately this is his final decision.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Lavalette discussed the idea of the demo delay by-law that has been brought to the commission in the past. Most recently this was discussed at a planning board meeting and Mr. Lavalette would like to have the commission look into the idea again.

Mr. Foley said he finds the biggest reason people tear old buildings down because it is too expensive to fix and he would like to work on the historic incentive to make it better for the homeowner to want to renovate versus demolition. Mr. Foley feels one of the great things about Fairhaven is all the character that has been preserved.

Discussion ensued as to ideas for a demo delay by law. The commission would like to work with the town planner and the building commissioner to help establish this.

Historical society president Tim Evans called chairman Oliveira to inform him that the lighting upstairs in the Academy was not working properly. Mr. Evans said they society will purchase the lighting and the commission will have the town electrician install the lights at the societies expense.

Chair passed out bills, members signed bills.

At 8:23 p.m. Mr. Ferro made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Carvalho seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Vicki L. Paquette*

Vicki Paquette  
Fairhaven Historical Commission  
(Approved 6/5/2019)