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Minutes of the Sandwich Historical Commission

April 5, 2023

SHC members present: Julia Blakely (chair), Matt Schimmel, Brenda Kelley, Lisa Hassler, June Murphy, Mahlon Peterson, Rich Claytor, Joanne Richardson, Mary Lynch, Susan Raidy-Klein

Absent: Jennifer Madden

Call to order: Julia Blakely called the meeting to order at 6:05pm

Review and approval of minutes: The February 2023 minutes were approved unanimously.

Correspondence/Statement/Announcements: The Chair introduced Susan Raidy-Klein as the newest member of the commission.

Titcomb's Bookstore said they are interested in co-hosting a future author series at either the Sand Hill Community Center or the Old Town Hall.

Public Forum: none

Staff meeting:

Membership: The Chair asked current commission members who are up for reappointment soon if they would be interested in continuing to serve. There will also be some full-voting member openings as some of the current full-voting members are interested in becoming alternates. The Chair expressed her interest in stepping down from the commission for a year or two.

Website: Former commission member and current webmaster Don Bayley will remain as webmaster for another year. The Commission discussed some options for the future and whether this would require a formal request if they used an outside vendor. The town can host the commission's existing website, but they cannot do any maintenance. The Commission also discussed the feasibility of migrating website content over to our Facebook page, which is getting increased engagement.

Budget: Brenda presented the list of projects and expenses included in our budget request. Commission prioritized and eliminated some items to get the budget closer to \$5,000. Commission explored other funding options, such as the Visitor Services Board grants, that could be applied for some of the projects, like the walking tour mobile app.

Old Business:

The Commission will continue to work together to identify the accuracy of dates for homes that are more than 75 years. Discussion ensued about how to manage the project so all commission members can have access and then subsequently, the public. One the project



is complete, we could request funding to prepare new Form B's to update the historic records for each property.

New Business: The Commission briefly discussed 6 Harbor Street appeal. The regional board upheld the ruling of the local Historic District Committee, which had denied a certificate of appropriateness to move and renovate the existing home.

Historic Marker Program – Joanne and June presented their research for four requests from homeowners for historic markers.

- 175 Route 6A – Commission agreed to have the marker date say “Joseph Hartford, circa 1850”. Unanimously approved.
- 43 Jarves – Commission unanimously approved the marker, and agreed to let the homeowner decide if they prefer the market to say “The Scott Store” or “Michael Scott Store”. Date is circa 1847.
- 6 Summer – Commission unanimously approved the marker with the name reflecting “Joseph French”. Date is 1848.
- 194 Main Street – The Commission agreed that more research is needed to determine the appropriate original owner.

Public forum: none

Other business not anticipated by the chair: none

Meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Schimmel