

**MINUTES - SANDWICH HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2011, 7:00 PM**

Present: Terry Blake, Ellen Carlson, Carolyn Crowell, Jennifer Madden (vice-chair), Janet Pinault, Jonathan Shaw, Nancy Stetson

Absent: Kate Bavelock, Bill Daley (chair), Garrett Gowan, Karen Juros, Palmer True

1. Nancy moved to approve the February minutes as amended, Ellen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Jennifer reported on the results of her examination of the documents from Ivan. She compared the files on the old flash drive and the new one and found only one document missing "Agents affecting stone deterioration." This is a boiler-plate document that did not require modification. Once we have an online home for these documents, this can be transferred from the old drive. Jennifer spot-checked the revisions and found them satisfactory.

Jennifer also investigated the grant possibility from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. There is a moderate amount of work required for this grant. The minimum request is \$7,500 and the maximum is \$100,000. It is a 50% matching grant with a deadline of March 25. The committee discussed the feasibility of applying for this for the burying ground project, as well as the Deacon Eldred House. It was agreed that the time between notification of the grant and the deadline is not adequate to not have some potential projects lined up before the end of the year, even though the grant is not funded every year. Jonathan suggested that we investigate some project possibilities through the summer, then check on the progress of the legislation in December.

Ellen will check with the library director to see if they are willing to host some of the documents from Ivan's report on the library website.

3. Jonathan updated the committee on the signage for the national register districts. The Community Preservation Committee approved \$16,000 for this project at their last meeting. This amount now must be approved at the town meeting in May. Paul Tilton has agreed to put up the signs, and Paul White has located someone who will build them.

4. Jonathan also informed the committee that the hearing regarding the possible demolition of 15 Canary Street has been postponed again because it was not properly advertised in the newspaper. The meeting will now be March 8 at 1:30 at the West Barnstable Fire Station. Since Bill will have returned from vacation for this hearing, Jonathan will ask him to appear to represent the Sandwich Historical Commission.
5. Terry is currently researching five houses for historical markers. She has 172 Route 6A back to 1849 and 171 Route 6A back to 1799. She will be visiting the Registry again this week for additional information.

She also wondered about the possibility of hosting the vital records of Sandwich on the SHC website (which she has in PDF form). We would probably need permission from New England Historic and Genealogical Society since they originally published the vital records. This led to a broader discussion about the website and the need for a pro bono webmaster. Terry said she would ask her husband if he would be willing to take this on.

Terry had some additional thoughts about how we might spread the word about what the Sandwich Historical Commission is trying to achieve. One idea was to set up a table outside the library during the summer art fairs with her husband demonstrating window restoration, different types of house hardware, period clothing, etc. to spur interest in Sandwich's 300 historic homes. This might be a time to include brief walking tours too. Maybe gather emails so we can keep them updated on what we are up to? Nancy also suggested that we might set up a small exhibit about SHC in the built-in bookcase just inside the archives door.

Terry and her husband have been doing a lot of research about historic homes in Sandwich and may soon be able to produce a map of which houses were present before the 1857 map.

6. Ellen led a discussion about the Local Comprehensive Plan. There are 100 items on the plan, and Jonathan believes we have accomplished 15 of them. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Jonathan would get the information to Ellen (perhaps through Bill) about these 15 items, then Ellen would send the document to everyone on the committee to engage in a priority setting exercise. We will each identify the 5 most

important items, the next 5 of secondary importance, anything that shouldn't be here and anything that was missed. The Planning Office is asking for an update on our progress on these items.

7. Terry updated the committee about her friends who are interested in investigating Sandwich as a locale for their documentary series on the histories and mysteries of small town New England. They will visit in June and if they are interested will begin filming in the fall.

8. Other business:

At the request of Bill, Jonathan prepared an application regarding the recent restoration of town hall to the Massachusetts Historical Commission preservation awards under the stewardship category. He hand delivered it to MHC on Monday. The report was greeted with enthusiasm by the committee.

Nancy expressed interest in doing a couple oral histories this spring. Jennifer will ask Bill to include this on next month's agenda.

Carolyn mentioned the annual Cape-Wide Historic Preservation Workshop: Current Issues in Preservation on April 7 and mentioned that she will be attending. Jennifer and Ellen also expressed interest.

Ellen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM. Nancy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Y. Madden  
Vice-Chair