

# MINUTES of the Sandwich Historical Commission

## March 1, 2017

**Present:** Members: David Schrader (acting chair), Jennifer Madden, Bill Daley, Lisa Hassler, Brandon Carrico. Also Deb Rich, Sandwich Archivist.

**Call to order:** David, acting as Chair for this meeting, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

1. **Review and Approval of Minutes:** Jennifer Madden moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2017 as written. Bill Daley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Correspondence / Statements / Announcements / Follow Up:** None
3. **Public Forum:** None
4. **Staff Meeting:**

Historical Markers:

- Bill Daley presented a historical marker for 12 Pleasant Street for approval and after presenting the history on this asset, based on his research, moved that the marker read "Charles H. Chapouil circa 1850". Jennifer seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Bill also presented a historical marker for 4 Factory Street for approval. Based on his extensive research, Bill moved that the house was first owned by the Boston and Sandwich Glass Factory and it should be states as such, circa 1845. Jennifer seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

These two new markers bring the count to 146 throughout the town of Sandwich. Bill mentioned that there are two other homes on Willow Street that will come up in a future meeting as the research is still underway.

- David asked Bill to share a recent story of how Bill was doing some research in Taylor White's office and looking for information that might be of interest to the Historical Commission. He noted that in 1894, the town had received communication from the Sons of the American Revolution requesting that the town go to the grave sights of those from Sandwich who fought in the Revolution, and put a flag at each of those graves, but that the flags should not exceed one dollar in price. Bill passed the book with this information along to David who is involved in this group today. David stated that he went to Taylor's office and did some further research and stated that this discovery of Bill's is very much of interest to the Massachusetts Sons of the American Revolution. As an aside, Bill noted that back then the entire town budget was about 15-18,000 per year. He also said that the biggest expenditure was the schools (as it is today), and the second was money to support the poor people in town. The third largest was to fix the roads.
- Sand Hill School update from Lisa Hassler said that the design process is moving along nicely. She noted that the architect is looking for direction on one or two rooms inside. She reported that from a construction perspective, it is less expensive to keep the building as two main rooms rather than one. A two room building would also keep the capacity of occupants down and thus lessen the impact of parking. Further, she said the two room layout is more in keeping with the original layout of the building. She said that the design group decided to keep it as two. The next question was the year that the

renovations should represent. She stated that she informed the group that the Historical Commission's position is that the building be restored back to the school era due to the significance to the glass factory. In fact, Lisa stated that the Sand Hill School Building is the only non-residential building in town that was part of the factory. The consensus at the design meeting was to renovate to the school era.

Lisa mentioned that the details of the building such as the crest line, carpenter gothic detail, and windows be replicated as well, but documentation from old photos is still needed by the architect. Deb Rich said she has found some but would keep searching and bring what she found to the next design meeting. Lisa conveyed Carolyn's request that the flagpole remain and that it will. The next meeting will consist of preliminary plans and other details for the discussion. Lisa wrapped up by noting the group is appealing to the public to not only send any photos of the building, but also reach out to Doug Lapp with any specifics as it relates to particular building needs from those who would like to use the space (audio visual, etc.).

Dave asked the date the building was used as a school, to which Lisa stated 1887. David noted that this was a time when the factory was dying down but that while declining, the factory still provided a vibrant community by which a school was still needed. Bill added that in the 1890's a vote in town was made to close the Sand Hill School and move the kids to a building on School Street and it passed at Town Meeting. A local pastor at the Catholic Church opened up a Catholic school for a year, and then it was voted soon thereafter, voted to reopen the Sand Hill School. David said that the closing of Sand Hill School for economic reasons foreshadowed the circumstances surrounding the closing of the Wing School.

Bill asked Lisa if there was any more discussion about the carpenter gothic style in the design meeting. She said they felt strongly that the design, whether it's carpenter design or otherwise, needs to be chosen and not a mix of one style and another.

David asked about the name change, and Lisa said the group is not taking the name issue topic at this time. It will be a discussion for a later time. Bill said that resident Carl Johansen has secured the 10 signatures needed to enter a warrant at the next Town Meeting to change the name to Sand Hill School. He asked that the SHC be prepared to support this warrant. David said the American Legion, which also uses the Clark-Haddad name, is in support of the Sand Hill School name change.

Lisa said the design phase will go through the summer of this year and in the fall, we would be asking for bids for construction.

## 5. **Old Business:**

- Bill mentioned the significance of Tom Keyes and the North Atlantic Archaeological Collaborative being able to secure the Deacon Eldred House as an archeological museum. He asked that Greg Anderson send a letter to Doug Lapp and Bud Dunham and Tom Keyes to recognize and show appreciation for this transaction. Also, Bill noted that Frank Pannorfi has agreed to put the Wing School discussion to a vote at town meeting as it relates to whether or not to sell the property or not. Bill said that the SHC should take a position at the next town meeting that this building should be saved and preserved. Lisa said it should be on the next meeting agenda. Deb stated that she has been working with Superintendent Dr. Pam Gould to allow access to the old building to find artifacts, documents, etc. for preservation. She wanted to publicly thank Dr. Gould for allowing this access.
- David mentioned that Tom Keyes and Taylor White and were going to look along the old Town Burial Ground along the water for anything of significance. Jennifer mentioned that she had been down there

herself and noted that there seemed to be grave marker material, but nothing that we needed to do anything with.

- Bill raised the issue that a resident by the name of Mr. Bumstead, who lives on Route 6A, has commented on social media that he was frustrated living between two "dilapidated houses". He shared comments about how people in town seemed frustrated that historical matters tend to be an issue for fix-ups, etc. Lisa and Bill noted that there are other homes that are falling down and how much of an eye sore – demolition by neglect. Bill asked that this topic be added to the next SHC meeting. He also noted that on the Attorney General Bill Galvin's website, there are steps towns can take to utilize the AG's office to reach out to homeowners to discuss ways they can and should fix their properties. Bill stated that the SHC should be more informed, not necessarily advocating in one way or another, about this issue as it relates to historical structures in town.

6. **New Business:** None

7. **Public Forum:** None

8. **Other business not anticipated by the chair:** None

Brandon made a motion to adjourn, Jennifer seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Greg Anderson