

Provincetown Historical Commission
January 25, 2008
Minutes

Meeting called to order 9:00 AM

Members Present: Steven Milkewicz, Taylor Polites and Char Priolo

Members Absent: Stephen Borkowski (excused), Polly Burnell (excused), Eric Dray (excused), Steven Desroches (excused)

Also Present: Regina Binder

1. Approval of Agenda

Polites moved to amend the agenda to include, after the approval of minutes, the following:

1. Presentation from Ginny Binder
2. Update on the Commission Budget
3. Election of a Vice Chair and Secretary for the Commission

Priolo seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0

2. 10th Anniversary of the fire of February 10, 1998

Regina Binder came before the Commission to request assistance for an event planned for the afternoon of February 9, 2008 to commemorate the fire that destroyed the original Crown & Anchor Hotel and the Whaler's Wharf and Provincetown Theater. Binder reported there would be a short documentary screened at the event related to the fire. She also reported that she had spoken with John Braden at WOMR and Beth O'Rourke of PTV to set up a "story core", a small space with video equipment that would enable attendees to discuss their experience of the fire.

Polites and Priolo spoke in favor of the event and the idea. Priolo will liaise with Milkewicz and Binder to determine what members of the Commission can do to assist Binder.

3. Historical Commission Budget

Johnstone reported that the budget requested by the Historical Commission was accepted by the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen at their recent budget review meetings.

4. Elections

Members present decided to table a discussion of the election of a Vice Chair and Secretary for the Historical Commission until the next meeting when more members are

present.

5. Approval of Minutes of December 14, 2007

Milkewicz moved to approve the minutes of December 14, 2007. Priolo seconded.

Vote: 3-0-0

6. Public Statements

There were no public statements.

7. History Summit

Members present decided to table discussion of the History Summit until the next meeting when more members would be present.

8. Murchison House

Polites reported that Dray had spoken to Rose Kennedy of Thomas Brown Realty and he would report back their conversation at the next Commission meeting.

9. Historic Walking Tour

Polites reported that he had met with Laurel Guadagno of the Visitor Services Board to begin preliminary discussions of the Historic Walking Tour. Polites provided members present with a list of historic sites under discussion. He requested members provide him with any comments regarding the site list and other concerns prior to the next joint meeting with members of the Visitor Services Board.

An open discussion ensued of additional sites for the walking tour and their importance.

10. Acquisition Policy for Historical Commission

Polites provided members present with the acquisition guidelines for the Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum and the Provincetown Art Association and Museum. He said he would draft an acquisition policy for the Commission based on those guidelines and present it at the next meeting for discussion.

11. New Business

Polites reported on the recent meeting of the Board of Selectmen with the team of architects making an assessment of the structural condition of Town Hall. He reported that the team identified key structural issues that would need to be mitigated. He shared a detailed report the team had made, identifying historical attributes of the building that were of critical importance. He stated that an office copy was available in the Town

Manager's office and photocopies would be available in the coming week. He reported due to the length and detail of the meeting, it was continued to a future date where the financial impact of the restoration would be discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 8, 2008 9:00 AM

Action Items

- Johnson stated she would make an effort to inventory her oral histories. Burnell offered to assist her in this inventory.
- Burnell stated that she will bring in a list of names to begin an effort to identify individuals who should be interviewed on a priority basis.
- Desroches agreed to contact Rafter to discuss the possibility of moderating the History Summit.
- The OHP subcommittee will produce a management plan and present it to the Commission in the near future.
- Polites will provide a draft acquisition policy to the Commission.