

THE IPSWICH HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD, June 22, 2023 in Town Hall Room A

Officers: Mariana Ovnic, Laura Gresh, Lindsay Randall, Rachel Meyer

Commissioners: Gordon Harris, Stephen Miles

Planning Department: Andrea Bates

Guest: Scott Finlay

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm.

- I. Citizen Queries
 - a. None.

- II. Chair updates
 - a. Christine Sarantopoulos has resigned from her position.

- III. Mary Conley SB presentations
 - a. August 7, 2023 meeting of the Select Board.
 - b. Harris will present for 10-15 mins in front of the Select Board. The format is a PowerPoint presentation that shows before and after images as well as other relevant information.

- IV. John Freeman plaque SB presentation
 - a. July 10, 2023 meeting of the Select Board.
 - b. Harris will present about John Freeman, an African American Revolutionary War soldier from Ipswich and the idea for placing a sign in the park at East and Spring Street. Essex National Heritage will be presenting along with Harris.

- V. Jenny Slew Park signage
 - a. Had a Juneteenth celebration at the newly named Jenny Slew Park.
 - b. A small sign was placed at the entrance, it is not meant to be the permanent sign. It was determined that a sign that lasts is what the Commission wants. Concepts Signs suggest looking at carved PVC for the sign. Suggested wording for a sign was brought up. Discussion ensued.

- VI. FY23 & FY24 budget discussion
 - a. Remaining budget \$1,200.51
 - b. Investigate/think about what resources uplift the work of the Commission as we consider resources we should be purchasing in the new fiscal year. Example: Does the Library has an Ancestry.com account, or is that something the Commission should consider? Possibly bringing speakers. Discussion ensued.

- VII. Public safety facility design discussion

- a. IHC has never had a formal process for this type of work. If IHC has comments, we can share them with Scott Finlay, who will share them at the Design Review Board meeting. Discussion ensued.
 - b. **Motion 2023.6.1.** Meyer moved to draft a letter to be shared with the Design Review Board. Miles seconded. 5 in favor and 1 against. Motion passed.
- VIII. Update on Section 3A with discussion
- a. Bates reported that the Task Force is waiting for the scope of work from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) and waiting to hear back from the Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP) and the One Stop Program for additional funding.
- IX. Town Project design feedback
- a. Miles shared his recent discussion with Brian Hone of the Ipswich Pedestrian and Cycling Advisory Board (PCAB) and Janet Craft of the Shade Tree Beautification Committee (STBC) to include IHC input on historically relevant DPW projects, including MassDOT TIP projects, that they have established a working relationship with DPW to review. Discussion ensued.
- X. Adopt minutes
- a. The minutes will be voted on next meeting.
- XI. New business
- a. None.
- XII. Adjournment
- a. **Motion 2023.6.2** Harris moved to adjourn the meeting. Ovnic seconded to adjourn the July Historical Commission meeting at 9:21 pm. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Next meeting will be on July 24, 2023 at 7 pm. Meeting in person at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Randall
Clerk/Secretary

Minutes approved by the Historical Commission on July 24, 2023