**Hopedale Historical Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 4, 2016**

**Little Red Shop Museum**

**12 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, Massachusetts**

**Present:** Jonathan Chase, Co-Chairman; Raymond Andreotti, Treasurer; Suzan Ciaramicoli, Co-Chairman and Recording Secretary; Kelly Merchant (7:17 p.m.)

**Absent:** Frederick Oldfield, III

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman, Jonathan Chase at 7:01 p.m.

Our invited guests from Hopkinton were unable to attend this meeting to discuss their experiences with the establishment of local historic districts in their town. We will try to reschedule for our May meeting.

The **Minutes of the April 6, 2016 HHC meeting**, prepared by Sue Ciaramicoli, were emailed to members of the HHC on 5/4/16 at 4:37 p.m. Sue also brought copies to the meeting for review. A motion was made by Kelly Merchant, and seconded by Ray Andreotti, to accept the April 6, 2016HHC Meeting Minutes as presented (and emailed). Jonathan asked if there needed to be any discussion about the last meeting’s minutes. There being none, and none opposed, the motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Ray reported the following expenses:

* Eversource - $68.22 LRSM
* National Grid (electric) – $92.15 LRSM
* Comcast – $85.66 LRSM
* Verizon - $12.92 LRSM – monthly allocation made to LRSM by the Town.
* Water & Sewer - $76.66 LRSM
* Eco-Systems Pest Control - $95.00 LRSM
* Reimbursement to Sue Ciaramicoli - $26.81
* Payment to Kelly’s Cleaning $100.00 + $33.70 reimbursement to Kelly Merchant

**BHC Partnership Grant**

* **The Project is progressing well!!!!**  Work sessions were held on April 9th, 16th, 21st, 22nd, 27th, 30th, and May 1st.
* **Partnership Grant Project Reimbursement Status -** Sue and Jonathan attended a follow-up meeting with Megan DiPrete, BHC Deputy Director, on April 15th.
* Jonathan was designated to reach out to Matt Kirchman, President and Principal Planner of Object Idea, at the request of Megan DiPrete, for an update on what they might be able to offer in support of the BHC Partnership Grant goal of establishing a strategic plan for the LRSM.

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* Megan gave us the impression that there would not be a Phase II to this project as we had discussed at our last meeting with her. We need to assess our reimbursement based on the overall plan for the Grant Request.
* In order to secure and support the reimbursement of some funds from the Grant, Sue was asked to gather additional information, particularly relative to the in-kind costs associated with moving the looms (truck rentals / donations, fuel costs, etc.) and to finalize Project Volunteer hours/costs.
* A follow-up meeting is planned for May 20th at the new BHC location at 670 Linwood Avenue, Unit #10, in Whitinsville. They are leaving their offices at the Depot in Woonsocket after also 20 years as tenants.

**Partnership Grant - miscellaneous**

* On April 20th, Sue wrote and mailed thank you cards to the following who were instrumental in the relocation of the LRSM historical loom collection:

Marc Belanger, SNEC-SIA

Bob Stewart, Board of Directors, NCCHP

Jay Jones, President, Noble and Cooley Drum Co.

Matt Jones, President, NCCHP

Don Howes, Howes Welding, Inc.

Shaun Keefe, G&U Logistix, Inc.

Jon Delli Priscoli, owner, G&U Logistix, Inc.

* + Gift cards in the amount of $50 each, and funded by the Friends of Historic Hopedale, were included in the thank you cards for Marc Belanger, Bob Stewart, Jay Jones and Matt Jones. A $50 gift certificate to the Town Common, also funded by the FoHH, was included with the thank you letter to Don Howes.

**Local Historic District**

* Sue sent an email (4/22) to thank Mike Potaski, Chairman, Uxbridge, LHDC, for coming to the April HHC meeting to share his knowledge about local historic districts.
* Sue sent follow-up emails (4/22) to Claire Wright and Michael Roughan, Hopkinton regarding an invitation to come to our May HHC meeting to share their experience about local historic districts

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* Sue sent an email to Steve Sette asking that he attend the May HHC meeting to participate in a discussion about local historic districts; to include Jen Smith from the NPS and Claire Wright and Mike Roughan from the Hopkinton HHC.
* On April 26th, Sue and Ray attended a local historic district workshop held in Mendon, which was conducted by Chris Skelly, MHC. Mendon is in the beginning stages of aggressively pursuing the formation of a local historic district. The only others in attendance were seven Mendon HHC members and a woman from Newton.
* Sue, Jonathan and Kelly will meet with Town Administrator, Steve Sette, next week to fill us in on his recent meeting with National Park Service personnel, Jen Smith and Meghan Kish, who represent the Blackstone Valley National Historical Park. In his email, rescheduling from this HHC meeting, Steve said, “I will say I was encouraged after speaking with the Blackstone Valley folks that we can make establishing a Historic District in Town work.”

**Miscellaneous**

* Sue sent follow-up emails to Wesley Hixon re potential artifact donations to the LRSM
* Sue responded by email (4/19) to a Hopedale Destination Imagination coach who was soliciting funds for the team to travel to a national competition. Sue explained that the HHC was a public commission and as such not able to make donations.
* Received a note from a Mr. William Savory, who has a portrait of Dorothy Draper Gannett (sister of Bill Gannett), that was painted by the artist William Draper around 1940. He would like to donate it to the LRSM.

**Flag Day** – Sue asked that the HHC endorse the annual Flag Day ceremony and program to be held at the LRSM on Tuesday, June 14th at 6 p.m. A presentation of the retired flag, a citation from the Board of Selectmen, and a plaque from the HHC would be made to Tom McGovern in recognition of “his passion and dedication to the preservation of the Little Red Shop Museum, his exemplary service on the 2007 Red Shop Committee, his ‘Save the Red Shop’ and successive capital campaigns, caring for the Little Red Shop Museum as Chairman of the Little Red Shop Museum Committee, his visionary leadership as Chairman of Hopedale Oktoberfest 2009-2014, his inspiration to honor our nation’s flag and others annually on Flag Day, and his continued personal commitment to ‘Preserving Our History Together.’”

Tom is retiring from this event and will pass the reins to Tommy Beder, a hometown Marine veteran who is active with the Friends of Historic Hopedale and some Little Red Shop Museum projects. A motion was made by Kelly Merchant and seconded by Ray Andreotti to endorse the annual Flag Day event and presentations to Tom McGovern. Jonathan asked if there needed to be any discussion about the last meeting’s minutes. There being none, and none opposed, the

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motion passed. Ray offered to do a painting of Tom for either the LRSM or for presentation to Tom as the event.

**Requested BHC Partnership Grant Leadership Change Request**

This agenda item wa**s** tabled last month due to Jonathan’s concern that this might not be acceptable to the BHC. Jonathan thought this might be an issue as he was the one to sign off on the contract with the BHC last year as the Project Director.

When Jonathan and Sue met with Megan DiPrete on April 15th, she said that this would not be an issue, but that it would be best to have Jonathan continue to provide any necessary signatures. Megan said that she/they have no problem with co-project managers on their end.  She also stressed that she would want to see any (read that as “all”) communication from one co-leader to her/us as also going to the other “co-”.  We would reply all so that both “co-“s get the same material.  She also suggests that a similar approach be used when speaking with folks from the National Park Service.

**Trademark Room Bookcase Project** – At its April 13th meeting, the FoHH voted to contribute $500 to the Trademark Room bookcase project being coordinated by FoHH volunteer Tom Beder. This will help with the storage needs for some of the newly cataloged books and artifacts.

**New *Town of Hopedale* Website** – As the new HHC webpage administrator, Sue Ciaramicoli, will participate in a 2 hour on-line training webinar tomorrow, May 5th.

A motion was made by Jonathan Chase and seconded by Ray Andreotti for the meeting to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sue Ciaramicoli, HHC Co-Chair and Recording Secretary