

Tyringham Historical Commission – Minutes Thursday June 7, 2018

The Historical Commission met at 5:10 pm on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at the Tyringham Schoolhouse, Tyringham, MA. Commission Members present - Alice Hale (Chair), Maggie Howard, Peter Charpentier, Ann Gallo, Mark Curtin. Member of public; Carol Hardy-Fanta.

1. Motion to open meeting by Alice, seconded by Nini.
2. Minutes of May 3, 2018 meeting were approved with location change. Motion by Mark to approve, seconded by Nini.
3. Treasurer report. \$1500 was approved at the Town Meeting for the next fiscal year. There is \$400 left over from last year. Mark believes there is \$3000 in additional HC funds from book sales and rental income from Bob Brown.
4. Sampler update: Peter spoke to Ruth VH and will get us the samplers by June 15, 2018. She has not been paid. She cleaned and framed with non-glare glass, museum backing and some repair stitching.
5. Carol reported on choices of purchasing a plaque for the Tyringham Library from the National Register of Historic Places. The preferred plaque chosen has a Celtic frame. It currently says, "This property has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places". Carol is looking into customizing the text to reflect, "The Tyringham Library..." She will let us know. The cost would be \$319. A motion was made by Mark to spend the \$319 for the plaque.
6. Barn #4 – Mark reported that he informed the Select Board that the Historical Commission did not follow proper procedure for a demolition permit by the Crosses. Larry Gould has subsequently received an application from the Crosses for a Demolition Permit and has withheld it waiting the HC's determination of the Barn's "significance". It was noted the prior HC vote on approving the demolition was precipitous and therefore not valid. Conversation ensued on the term "significant" as stated in the Demolition Delay By-law. Mark believes Barn #4 has historical significance because it is the oldest agricultural building on the farm. He also stated that it meets criteria A & C of the National Register. Nini countered saying that she does not believe Barn #4 has enough historical significance and worthy of prohibiting this particular demolition. She used the 1891 Barn as a comparison as to what type of building is considered "significant". Nini made a motion to take a vote on whether Barn #4 has sufficient historical "significance". Peter, Nini and Maggie voted it was not sufficiently significant and the cultural heritage of the town is not impacted by its loss. Alice Hale abstained. Ann Gallo and Mark Curtin recused themselves. The vote was three HC members saying it was not significant enough to save. Mark will inform Larry Gould of the decision and the Crosses have the option to go to the Board of Appeals. There were no votes saying Barn #4 was "significant".
7. Mark updated the HC on the Schoolhouse Advisory Committee. This included getting estimates on renovating the exterior of the building.
8. Nini moved to adjourn at 8:30pm. Ann seconded it.