

# Randolph Historical Commission

Final version #1

Minutes of Meeting October 20, 2010

## Present:

Meeting was reconvened at 7:00pm at Stetson Hall

Present: Chairman Henry Cooke, Susan Ryan, Alan Banks, Joe Griffin and Mary West. Also in attendance:

Ron Lum from the Community Preservation Commission (CPC).

Mike Galvam

Nancy Galindo-Rodriguez

Absent: Lallie Falls and Lesly Freed

Excused: none

**Minutes of September 1st, 2010 meeting:** accepted

## Correspondence:

- Invitation letter from the Norfolk Country Register of Deeds regarding Historical Pictures Open House on Tuesday Nov 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm at their office (649 High Street, Dedham); must RSVP by Nov 9<sup>th</sup> to Alicia Gardner 781-461-6104 or email [agardner@norfolkdeeds.org](mailto:agardner@norfolkdeeds.org)
- Randolph Historical Society special event on Nov 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at the Belcher House; topic is about Alvin DeSisto and his WWII service as a B17 pilot; open to the public free of charge

## Reports:

- Design review board – no report
- Community Preservation Commission – update on preservation restriction discussions for the CPA money already spent on the Belcher House; the restriction will include requirements for “public benefits” in proportion to the funding; being discussed now are having the Belcher House available for municipal/school use 12 times per year (at the convenience of the Randolph Women’s Club); plus 6 no-cost or low cost functions will be open to the public each year (such as blood drives, flu clinic, wellness speakers, book club, etc). Randolph Women’s Club fundraising events would take priority in scheduling.

## Old Business:

- Royal/Stetson House at 660 North Street –
  - Update on Repair plans –
    - Chairman expects to receive the 3 bids back from roofing contractors by Friday (Karl Wells, Beacon Cornice & Roofing and Rile Construction)
    - Chairman will coordinate the selection with a Building Committee consisting of the Town Manager, a member of Town Council, Town Planner and DPW (besides Henry)
  - Update on Reuse plans:
    - Chairman was interviewed by Doug Tanner of the Nelliemae Educational Grant Foundation who is working with the Randolph Public Schools on experiential learning, student internships and community education. All of these goals align with potential future use of the Royal Stetson House. The next step is a stakeholders meeting on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> ..

- Historical Commission website – Susan proposed that we look into using a free, social media such as Facebook to let the public know about the Royal Stetson house, including ways they could help with its restoration. Chairman will ask Town Manager if it is ok to for the Commission to have an unofficial web site.
- WIFI in Stetson Hall: not available yet, but Chairman will discuss with the Trustees as it would be helpful for business meetings upstairs too
- PassPerfect software: this is a good program to use for documenting the many artifacts we have; it can integrate many different media together; Chairman said it has been used by many other organizations with favorable results

**New Business:**

- 56 Chestnut Street: house is currently unoccupied and in foreclosure; Mr Mike Galvam is interested in purchasing the property from the bank if he can demolish and build a new single family home on the lot.
  - Chairman visited the property and researched some records; likely build c. early 1870's; exterior of the house isn't in good shape nor does it have unique or significant historical features
  - It is related to the W.T. Piper House and Mill which produced cider and cider vinegar in the 1880's and 1890's
  - It has been vacant for over 1 year
  - Motion to determine that the property is NOT of historical significance if presented with a demolition permit. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.
- Review of Town Council's proposed revisions of Town Code: the only discussion pertained to the newer bylaw regarding neglect of property (different than Chapter 87 Demolition of Historic Buildings).

Next Meeting: Oct 27, 2010 at 7:00pm

Meeting Adjourned: 8:19pm