

Randolph Historical Commission

Final version

Minutes of Meeting December 13, 2010

Present:

Meeting was reconvened at 7:00pm at Stetson Hall

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

Absent: Lesly Freed

Excused: Lallie Falls

Minutes of October 27th, 2010 meeting: accepted

Correspondence:

- Letter from William O'Donnell, Norfolk County Register of Deeds dated 11/23/10 regarding the *Historical Pictures of Norfolk County* project. The open house and feedback has been very positive, so they are accepting another picture from each community, if we desire to send an image. It needs to be emailed to Alicia Gardner at agardner@norfolkdeeds.org

Reports:

- Design review board – no report
- Community Preservation Commission – no update.
- Chairmain shared information from a workshop he recently attended in Rhode Island (tips on grantwriting, grants sources, Harpers Ferry Center (Nat'l Park Svc) Interpretive Media Selection, environmental preservation of museum collections, disaster and preservation planning for libraries, collections planning from American Assoc of Museums, material classification and cataloging guidelines.

Old Business:

- Royal/Stetson House at 660 North Street –
 - Update on Repair plans –Re-roofing
 - Discussed the conundrum with the Building Committee with regards to the urgent need to re-roof but (Rich Brewer and David Murphy's) concerns about lack of funding for restoration. They are concerned that this project doesn't have adequate resources (including non-profit/volunteer commitments), a lot of time has elapsed causing further structural deterioration, and the town can't afford to underwrite this project.
 - Chairman will follow-up with North Bennet Street School to find out if their Preservation Carpentry program will accept this as a project. William McMillan, a member of the school's Board of Directors, agreed that this would be worthwhile for the students.
 - Chairman accepted donated tarps to cover the roof for the winter. He is working with Ken Smith and a few guys to climb up on the roof and securely nail them down.
 - Update on Reuse plans:
 - Randolph Public School submitted application for Nelliemae Educational Grant Foundation for experiential learning, student internships and community education. All of these goals align with potential future use of the Royal Stetson House. Not sure the time frame for when the grant will be

awarded. Still need to discuss with School Board so they understand and are on-board.

- Chairman will discuss collaborating with the Randolph Historical Society for fundraising as they are an official non-profit organization
- Susan will start a web-based "Facebook friends" site so neighbors, residents and the Stetson kin can follow the progress, become involved or help solicit donations.
- Alan will contact WGBH to see if they have any interest the property for an episode of *This Old House*
- Susan will contact Stacy's pita chips located nearby to see if they are interested in donating
- Susan will contact Braintree's Historical Society's Director of Education to learn more about how they work with the public school system to teach the kids about local history
- Chairman met the new Town Planner Heather Urwiller recently; we should invite her to our next meeting to understand if she can assist with grantwriting or learn if she has ideas or contacts to assist with restoration and re-use

New Business:

- none

Next Meeting: January 19, 2011

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15pm