

Dighton Historical Commission
1111 Somerset Ave
Hybrid Meeting- Old Town Hall and Zoom
October 8, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Present: Patricia Gailes, Patricia Olsen, Rafa Delfin, Zach Caron, Shara Costa

1. Call Meeting to Order – 6:04 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Secretary's Report
 - Minutes of September 10, 2024
Motion to accept minutes of September 10, 2024 as amended. Moved by Zach; seconded by Costa. All in favor
 - Minutes of Special Meetings of September 5 and September 19, 2024. Motion to accept minutes of September 5 and 10, 2024. Moved by Zach; seconded by Costa. All in favor
 - Minutes of Special Meeting of September 23, 2024. Motion to accept minutes of September 23, 2024. Moved by Zach; seconded by Costa. All in favor
4. FY 25 Budget
 - Expenditures/Balance
No expenditures thru (9/30). Current balance is \$1,400. Encumbrance \$80
Expenditures of \$73 for stamps and Shara's costs for conference. Olsen signed the vouchers.
5. Unfinished Business
 - Review/Discuss/ Act - Preserving Memories of Dighton - Zack said that the studio is up and running. Interviewee Cam is available on Mondays and Tuesday's late afternoon and evenings. We have to prepare some questions for him.
 - Review/Discuss/Act –Walking Tour Pamphlet of Dighton's National Register Districts
We added the information for Hodijah Baylies – Customs Collector. Gailes spoke briefly with Karin in the BOS office about the indemnification language. May have to ask legal. Will follow up.
 - Review/Discuss/Act – Historical Marker
Our agreement with Paul Pacheco of American Vinyl is over. Pacheco gave Gailes the new marker as well as the old marker. He is not charging us for the new marker. Rafa is contacting the vendor that makes Rehoboth's markers. According to accountant, the encumbered funds can be used for a sign.
6. Preservation
 - Review/Discuss - Mt. Hope Finishing Company area Meeting held on September 23. We all feel that it went really well. We are glad that we reached out to the community.
 - Review/Discuss - West Dighton Survey
Stacy Spies is working on the survey. She was at the Historical Society today completing some research.
7. Reports

- CPC report
Met on September 19 and October 3. At the September meeting, our application of eligibility for Mt. Hope was approved. Denied was the application of eligibility from the Dighton Housing Authority for replacement of windows. Kevin Smith called a special meeting on October 3 to review our project application for the Mt. Hope Finishing Company National Register of Historic Places nomination to place it on the special town meeting warrant. Our application was approved and will be on the warrant for town approval.
- Library Building Committee
Met on September 12 and 26. Progress is being made on the exterior renovations. Ramps have been constructed and stairs redone. Next is plumbing and electric. Expect that the HVAC will be going to bid in November.
- America's 250th Anniversary
Met last night. Discussion on budget which is on the BOS/Finance Committee agenda tomorrow. Still looking to hold at least the reenactment with town funding and grants/donations. Had an informational table at the Community Church Fall Fair and will be at the Lions Club Art Festival at Araujo Farms on November 3rd.
- Sweet Knolls DCR update - Rafa shared about the meeting on September 25th with DCR Regional Interpretive Coordinator Simon Schreier and Taunton Watershed Alliance representative Sally Spoon. The group reviewed goals and objectives for interpretation at Sweet's Knoll, brainstormed audience descriptions, and brainstormed tangibles, intangibles and universals in support of developing interpretive themes. Schreier will present the group's ideas to DCR's chief of interpretation to be reviewed and edited.

8. Other

- Next Meeting Date – November 12, 2024 6:00 PM
- Review/Discuss – Massachusetts Historic Preservation Conference – Shara said it went well and focused around telling a story (architecture, people). She took a tour of the Salisbury House where the guide talked about reusing things from different areas, and creating space that look similar to the original. Shara also said that grants are available. She also took a virtual tour using her phone. A keynote speaker was featured who talked about stories related to the house.

9. Correspondence

MHC Notice of Survey and Planning Grant for FY25. 50% matching reimbursement. Start in administratively in July 2025.

10. Motion to adjourn. Moved by Zach, seconded by Shara. All in favor. Adjourned at 6:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Rafa Delfin, 11/7/2024