

**Dighton Historical Commission**  
**1111 Somerset Ave**  
**Hybrid Meeting- Old Town Hall and Zoom**  
**December 10, 2024 - 6:00 PM**

**Present: Pat Gailes, Rafa Delfin, Pat Olsen, Irene Allie, Shara Costa**

**Meeting Agenda**

1. Call Meeting to Order – 6:07 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Secretary's Report
  - Minutes of November 12, 2024
  - Motion to accept minutes as submitted. Motion by Shara Costa, seconded by Irene Allie. All in favor.
4. FY 25 Budget
  - Expenditures/Balance  
Shara's conference cost was \$145 and has been processed. Balance is \$1141.13. Still have \$80 encumbered.  
There are no changes on Segreganset Schoolhouse Gift account or donation account  
We've spent 18.49% of budget. What expenses do we see for Jan-June?
    - Possible conference in June for 2 projected \$250, plus travel - \$95
    - Adding West Dighton to GIS map - \$200
    - Historical markers (Old Town Hall, Smith Memorial Hall)
    - Office supplies – for notebooks need to inventory what we have
    - Copies of West Dighton Survey forms – estimate \$50-60
  - Review/Discuss FY 26 budget meeting – Rafa and Shara attended the departmental meeting on budget last December 4. Rafa represented the Historical Commission. Rafa said that it was a short meeting where all committees decided to decrease their respective budget because they have no choice. Each committee has to decide how much percentage it wants to decrease from the budget.
  - FY 26 budget due January 22, 2025. Zero based budget with reasons and justifications for requests. We are being asked to consider reductions – submit a budget less than last year. This has to be voted on and signed by a majority of commission members. Chairman will meet with TA and town accountant. In 2024, our budget is \$1,400 which was allotted to the following: Professional and Technical (\$750), Communications (\$30), Other Supplies (\$490), Travel (\$130).
5. Unfinished Business
  - Review/Discuss/Act - Preserving Memories of Dighton – Gailes said that Zach had reached out to Dave Marvill about the studio but has not heard back from him. The studio is ready to be used.
  - Review/Discuss/Act –Walking Tour Pamphlet of Dighton's National Register Districts – Gailes said she found pictures from the Historical Society that we can use for the walking tour pamphlet

- Review/Discuss/Act – Historical Markers – Rafa received a quote from a potential vendor FastSigns located in Seekonk. The quote is \$173.85 plus \$10.87 taxes with grand total of \$184.72. Rafa thinks it's too expensive and he presented another option – to solicit sponsorship from Bristol Plymouth Regional High School if they could make the markers for free. After all, the school had made the sign for the James Briggs community garden. Gailes will give Rafa the contact info for Kevin Clifford, the carpentry instructor, so Rafa could reach out to him and present his proposal.

6. Preservation
  - Review/Discuss/Act - Mt. Hope Finishing Company National Register Nomination Contract Compare to proposal. Gailes will submit to Board of Selectmen for review and approval on their regular meeting on January 8.
  - Review/Discuss/Act – 2120 Water Street – Rafa said he visited the property during an open house last December 1. Even though the house is condemned, the realtor let visitors in. Rafa said that the house is in deplorable condition. He took photos and posted them on the Historical Commission's Facebook page. He said that a woman showed interest in the house but said that it would be very expensive to rehabilitate it. She said she contacted CPC to help fund the rehab but CPC does not fund private entities. The current owner of the property bought it in hoping of demolishing it and building a new one; but since they couldn't find a buyer, they lowered the selling price. Rafa said that there's no hope for the old house to be saved.
7. Reports
  - CPC report  
There are new applications to CPC for funding. Reviewed status of existing projects – West Dighton, Broad Cove Trails, Library. There was a discussion of possible future projects in different areas.
  - Library Building Committee  
Will be meeting on Thursday, December 12.
  - America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
The committee met on December 2. Plans are continuing for the reenactment and encampment. Discussion about presentation on the Old Bristol Path and a potential fundraiser connected to the old Bristol Path. Discussion on a monument for Revolutionary War veterans.
8. Other
  - Next Meeting Date – January 14, 2025 6:00 PM
  - Discussion on 2025 Meeting Dates
  - Pat Olsen brought an album of old photos featuring Dighton sites and showed it to the group
9. Correspondence
  - Newsletters from Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum
10. Motion to adjourn at 7:21 PM – Moved by Pat Olsen, seconded by Shara Costa. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Rafa Delfin, 1/12/2025