

CUMBERLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Cumberland Town Hall

45 Broad Street

Cumberland, RI 02864

Meeting, Tuesday, May 20, 2014

7:30 PM

Call to Order at 7:30 PM

Roll Call: The following members were present; David Balfour, Lester Hilton, John Robinson, .Bruce Shepherd, Kathleen McKenzie, Joyce Hindle Koutsogiane,

Commissioner Bascombe was excused

Approval of Meeting Minutes

There were no Minutes to approve

Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

David introduced Josh O'Neill who will now provide staff support for

the Historic District Commission. Josh mentioned some of his duties as Planner for the Town as well as the recent grant award for a Rehabilitation Master Plan for Franklin Farms that the HDC should be apprised of as the project commences. David mentioned that he had heard that Franklin Farm might be painting this summer and would like to talk to them about that.

Correspondence

David talked about an inquiry he received from a Cynthia Stymie of Davis, CA. She was inquiring about a distant relative and possible cemetery location in Cumberland. David helped the woman with some research.

General Discussion

David mentioned that there is a Historic Well on Nate Whipple Highway that he would like someone to do some research on. Lester talked for a few minutes about the Town historic cemetery list he has compiled. The list is almost complete and ready to share. The membership wanted this list posted to the Town website. There was some discussion about the need for a Town History Museum that could be housed at Town Hall or possibly at one of the Public School. Josh mentioned that we should include this as an item in our current Town comprehensive Plan update.

Discussion of Historical Society

David talked about the Blackstone Valley Historical Society. This is a private group that is not publicly financed. The members discussed the vast differences between a Historic District Commission and a Historical Society. Members have interest in someday forming a historical society but are worried there would not be enough people in Town to run both a Historic District Commission and a Town Historical Society.

Project Reviews

There were no projects for review at this meeting

No other business was conducted.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Hindle Koutsogiane, EdD

Recording Secretary