

Kingston Historical Commission

Minutes

July 27, 2023

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in Room 101.

Members present:, Dave McKee, Craig Dalton, Jim McKenna, Ken Brack

Members absent: John Bartlett, Tom Vendetti, Lynne Carreiro

1. Review minutes of previous June meeting, approved 4-0 as amended.
2. Pay bills: Daedalus Inc. invoice from June 26 for \$12,000 to complete the Old Burying Ground restoration project. Ken motioned to approve, Jim seconded, unanimous.
3. Grant proposal to restore petitioners/founders' graves in OBG. Members discussed Tom Vendetti's letter about applying for a grant. Craig suggested the Commission seek funds for tree removal, perhaps a combination of MHC grants and through the Community Preservation Act. Markers or possibly placques are also needed for the restored Revolutionary War graves.

Members also discussed ways to digitally map the OBG and provide historical information on people such as through QR codes. Possible resources include checking with consultant Martha Lyons, who did the recent OBG Master Preservation Plan, and the vendor who did mapping of Evergreen Cemetery. Dave suggested DiscverGraves.com and Discover EverAfter.com as resources.

4. GPR work at the OBG. Professor Michael Zimmerman of Bridgewater State University is conducting a Ground Penetrating Radar project with students. Due to recent heat, field school students had not completed the project, which seeks to identify possible graves of paupers and slaves, and Zimmerman said they plan to return.

Continuing Business

5. Review Community Preservation Plan section on historical preservation. Members agreed to take out an inventory of historic places included in the document, and also update the inventory for the Commission's use. CPC members are streamlining the preservation plan.
6. Update on 300th Book Project. Ken reported that more contributors are researching and working on pieces, while members continue to reach out to community members for ideas.
7. Update on 300th Anniversary Committee. Postponed.
8. Possible dates to help with Bradford House breakfast. August 27 is an open date, and several members said they would try to attend.

Jim motioned to adjourn at 7:35, Dave seconded, unanimous.