TOWN OF WINDSOR LOCKS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Meeting MINUTES: Tuesday, November 21, 2023

A meeting of the Commission was held Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at the Noden-Reed House. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 06:33pm and followed an Agenda filed earlier with the Town Clerk. Attending were Mickey Danyluk, Chairman, and Commissioners Chet Pohorylo and James (Jim) Roche, Jr. Also attending was Lisa Caruso, applicant for Commission Secretary. There was no public input. With a motion by Jim Roche and second of Chet Pohorylo, the MINUTES of the previous meeting of June 20, 2023 were accepted. With regards to a Financial Report, the Chair declared that the Commission was within its budget as the new fiscal year has just begun, and there have been no additional expenditures.

Re: Old Business: Jim Roche related that such improvements as Reed House wiring and soil grading on the west side of the house, have been completed; which leaves \$2,480.65 for a new exterior door, and locks and adaptors to fit the doors. Phil Devlin, of Public Works, needs to determine the cost, and any fiscal residue is to be spent on separating the front door alarm from the cellar door alarm circuit. There has been no progress on moving the anchor rock/grist stones/bridge sign to the industrial park on the canal bank. Jim further related that the Town has been awarded a \$2.4 million grant to complete restoration/renovation of the historic train station, and contracts are expected to be signed in January, 2024. In the last fiscal year, the Commission requested \$552,516 for brick barn repairs/restoration, and \$310,000 was approved. Jim has been working with Phil, and a price of \$53,000 was determined to cover the barn roof, cupola reconstruction, gutters/downspouts, and shed reconstruction. (No work has begun on the barn and winter is approaching.)

Re: New Business: The chair introduced Lisa Caruso, of Halfway House Rd, who wishes to be Commission Sec'y. She was warmly received and accepted. There are no anticipated histories to begin at this time; no acquisitions nor commemoratives. However, the Chair related that a gathering will be held on December 3, 2023 in Grove Cemetery at the respective lots of the Reeds and Nodens to honor the 50th anniversary of the passing of Gladys Reed, prior to Victorian Christmas open house at Noden-Reed. The Chair also reported that he and fellow historian, Phil Devlin, offered Veterans legacy presentations in the Middle School, with teacher Rachel Hess, who will be heading Heritage Week there. The Chair reported filing of the Commission's annual report for Town Annual Report 2023, and has requested that the Finance Board dedicate the Report in memory of Gladys Reed. The Commission then moved to compile its budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 as follows: Commission Recording Sec'y fees at prevailing rate for 4 meetings; Anniversary/Acquisitions Fund: \$3,000 for acrylic mannequin enclosure for Ella Grasso inaugural gown, \$212,000 for exterior barn repointing-repairs / \$15,420 for consideration of escalation costs for continuing work, \$14,000 part-time groundskeeper for Noden-Reed Park (maintenance/repairman), alarms for house/barn/train station, same cost as last year with adjustment, \$11,000 for development of a petting zoo at Noden-Reed: \$5,000 for fencing/\$6,400 for shelters with feed cost to be determined. There was no additional Public Input. With matters addressed, the Meeting was adjourned at 07:11pm with a motion of Chet Pohorylo and a second of Jim Roche; all agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Caruso, Commission Secretary