

Richard McGrath, Chair
Bill Lakso, Vice Chair
Kevin Boussom, Secretary
Jennifer Sanderson, member
Megan Lordan, member

Town of Lunenburg Historical Commission



Minutes of Meeting

Thursday, January 4, 2024 @ 7:00 pm
Ritter Memorial Building located at 960 Massachusetts Ave, Lunenburg, MA 01462

- call to order 7 pm
- McGrath, Lakso, Sanderson, and Lordan in attendance
- secretary not in attendance so minutes from Dec 7, 2023 unavailable
- Cemetery Commission requests Chari McGrath be in attendance at their February 15, 2024 meeting to discuss North and South cemeteries historic status, grants, and subsidies available for necessary preservation and upgrade work
- McGrath brought up a discussion about how the Community Preservation Act could help fund necessary preservation work and upkeep at the cemeteries as well as for other town projects. The CPA could be used, not only by the Cemetery Commission, but also by the Historical Commission and the Architectural Preservation District Commission, which have voted to advocate for the Town's adoption of the CPA.
- Lakso reported that the application to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for a grant for the townwide survey of the existing houses on the 1833 Cyrus Kilburn Map was progressing and would be ready for submittal soon.
- Sanderson reported she was working on getting all the details for the Home Town Heroes Banner program in line. Meetings would be upcoming with the Town manager and Unitil.
- McGrath reported that the partially built Arnold/Lynch Memorial on West St Terrace would be dismantled and protected until it could be reerected on the exact cemetery plot where the burials have been found.
- McGrath discussed the use of the Historical Markers as an important educational tool to draw attention to important Town sites to promote public recognition of the value of these places and events to the quality of the Town's fabric.
- The Commission reiterated its commitment for the use of its budget to initiate the Home Town Heroes Banner project, as well as for the Historical Markers outside the APDC.

APDC Update

- Sanderson presented the Home Town Heroes Banner program to the APDC.
 - McGrath spoke to the APDC in favor of the CPA. He outlined how it could offer funding for preservation of town buildings and other projects in the APDC.
- next meeting Feb 8, 2024, at 7 pm at the Ritter Memorial Building.
- Adjournment 7:24 pm