

**TOWN OF YARMOUTH
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES - Final
Thursday, January 9, 2020**

Meeting Place: Hearing Room, downstairs at Town Hall, 1146 Route 28, South Yarmouth, MA

Members Present: Chair Julie Mockabee; Commissioner Jack Duggan; Commissioner Kathe Hyslop; Commissioner Bob Kelley; Commissioner George Slama; Associate Sam Lawrence

Members Absent: Vice Chair Fred Fries; Associate Beverly Bachand; Associate Robert Hyslop

Staff: Beth Vozella, YHC Office Administrator; Karen Greene, Director Community Development

Guest: Martin Murphy, Taylor-Bray Farm

With a Quorum present, Ms. Mockabee called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Taylor Bray Farm – Barn Update:** Mr. Martin Murphy noted that the three 2019 festivals; (Sheep, Fall and Christmas) were very successful raising a total of \$19,000. The farm provides a venue for school group visits, birthday parties and weddings which provide donations to the TBFA. Total revenues for the year were \$53,000 and expenses of \$42,000 resulted in net income of \$11,000. Mr. Murphy indicated that from a financial standpoint that this was the best year yet for the TBFA.

Karen Greene reported that she is following up with John Balogna from Coastal Engineering to update their quote to include removing a wall between the sitting room and back room of the barn. Also update the kitchen and bathroom.

Mr. Duggan once again presented his concerns relative to clearing out of antique floorboards and timbers that are stored at the barn, as well as a number of historic bricks discovered during archaeological digs at the farm. He noted that the items that are stored in the attic place a substantial load to the structure of the barn.

The members discussed the possibility of donating the items to the TBFA and/or sell the wood to a carpenter. Also discussed was the possibility of using some of the floorboards to build a table for the restored barn. Several options were also presented for disposing/utilization of the antique bricks.

Mr. Duggan agreed to provide Ms. Greene with an inventory of the floorboards. He will also conduct research on any restrictions that Mass Historical Commission may have on the disposition and/or Town utilization of the historic bricks.

- 2. Annual Report Submissions:** Ms. Beth thanked the members for their edits of the 2019 Annual Report. She noted that the YHC is limited to three pages and that she will do her best to distill the document to reflect all of the commission's accomplishments in 2019.

Mr. Slama suggested that the commission include the full report in the February 2020 meeting minutes. The members agreed and Mr. Slama will send the full report to the members for edits for discussion at the next meeting.

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS:

1. **Role of the Yarmouth Historical Commission:** Discussion deferred.
2. **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Taylor Bray Farm:** Ms. Greene stated that she is going to meet with Town Counsel on 28 Jan 20 to review the caretaker contract with the intention of posting this open position.

Ms. Mockabee asked Mr. Murphy if he would be available to meet with the YHC on a quarterly basis to present an update on the farm. His presence will also facilitate the development of the MOU between the Town and TBFA. Mr. Murphy agreed to meet quarterly with the commission.

3. **Website:** Discussion deferred.
4. **Signage:** Ms. Greene explained that there is funding available from the Community Economic Development Center (CEDC) for educational signage for the Town. She requested Bob Kelley's assistance with identifying locations for the signage and with developing cost estimates to include in a grant proposal. Mr. Kelley agreed to assist with the development of the grant proposal.

TOWN OWNED HISTORIC PROPERTIES, ARCHAEOLOGY & COMMUNITY PRESERVATION UPDATES

- **Judah Baker Windmill:** Discussion deferred
- **Taylor-Bray Farm:** Ms. Greene indicated that she has requested quotes to clean the Farm House roof and walkways of the moss that has accumulated on both. Mr. Murphy indicated that this is also an issue on the donkey barn, sheep barn and the chicken coup roofs. Bob Kelley indicated that he has had this process done on his home and was pleased with the results. Ms. Greene requested that Bob Kelley forward the name of the contractor to her for consideration.

Also, as a follow-up to a prior discussion on the TBFA's request to not be charged garbage and tree limb town disposal fees, Ms. Greene stated that she will prepare a letter to Dan Knapik to approve the request which will allow the TBFA to access the Town Waste Management site at no cost to the TBFA.

- **Baxter Grist Mill:** Ms. Greene presented pictures from within the mill's fish ladder which is under construction. The construction project is nearing completion.
- **Archaeology:** Mr. Duggan indicated that he has removed the Bray Collection items from the Farmhouse and has them temporarily stored in a secured location. Mr. Duggan is looking into having someone from Eldridge auction house appraise the items. The TBFA will discuss what items to keep at the Farm and to research the option to list the remaining items with the Eldridge auction house.

Mr. Duggan also inquired as to the status of moving the TBF archaeological finds from various locations to the space that will be donated by Ms. Mockabee's business, Vanguard Moving and Storage. Ms. Mockabee requested that Mr. Duggan provide her with an estimate of the storage space required and she will prepare a letter to the Board of Selectman detailing the space that will be provided and what the annual donation will total.

- **Community Preservation:** Discussion deferred

STAFF REPORTS/ CORRESPONDENCE: None

MINUTES

- 09.25.18
- 10.04.18
- 10.25.18
- 11.08.18
- 12.13.18
- 01.10.19
- 02.14.19
- 03.21.19 Site Visit
- 03.21.19 Meeting

Mr. George Slama motioned that each of the minutes be accepted as presented. Ms. Julie Mockabee seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0-0

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMENTS:

1. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- a. Creation of donation account for YHC
- b. Disposition of TBF historic bricks and floorboards

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, George Slama motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bob Kelley seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM

NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING: Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 10:00AM

Submitted by: George Slama, YHC Associate Member Approved: 02/13/2020 Vote: 7-0-0