

THOMASTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

October 27, 2009

Members Present: Joe Wassong, Kristin Mosimann O'Sullivan, Lucille Killiany, Ken Santopietro, Cathy Russ (came and departed-not feeling well)

Others Present: Scott Duff, Bob Magdziarz, Val Polowy, Elaine Dixon, Howard Gomme

Joe called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

A motion made to accept the minutes of September 22, 2009 as amended, made by Lucille, seconded by John. Motion carries 5-0. Amendment: Plaque hanging ceremony. Lunch to be funded by Seth Thomas Bradstreet Society funds.

Update on ADA Improvements Project- Kenneth Thomas will be our contractor. Minor design changes to be confirmed by SHPO before awarding bid. Expect approval following SHPO's November 4th meeting.

Discussion of issues concerning the finance, restoration, and maintenance of the Seth Thomas-Bradstreet House:

Other plumbing needs- John researched and purchased a dehumidifier for the basement from Red's for 220.90. Motion made to approve 220.90 for dehumidifier purchase made by Kristin, seconded by John. Motion carries 5-0. Funded from Hist Comm operating budget.

Tasks to open the House: Report on the Robinson Family plaque installation. Joe read a thank you note from Gayliss Robinson regarding the ceremony and lunch. There were 25 people in attendance of ceremony and lunch. Lunch funded by Seth Thomas Bradstreet society. A big thank you to Scott and Val and their cleaning crews for all the work done the week prior to the lunch. The house looks wonderful!

Furniture conservation- No update.

A motion was made by Kristin, seconded by Lucille to authorize payment of 175.00 to Stanley Security (Sonitrol) for battery replacement in sensors. Funded by Hist Comm operating budget. Motion carries 5-0.

A motion was made by Kristin, seconded by John to authorize payment of \$345.70 to Royalty Carpet for purchase and installation of front hall stairway runners. Motion carries 5-0. Funded by Hist Comm operating budget.

Recruitment of guides- A calendar has been started for tracking volunteers for next years opening. See Kristin if you would like to add your name or know of other volunteers. There are 29 Saturdays in 2010 that we will be open.

A motion made by Kristin, seconded by John to waive entrance fees for those visitors who cannot climb stairs. Motion carries 5-0. We anticipate approval of our fee schedule by the Conn. Historic Preservation Council on November 4th.

Report on Celebratory breakfast held on September 26. Funded by STB Society. 37 Volunteers attended.

A discussion was held regarding the sign for front lawn with Howard Gomme, a retired sign maker. He gave us several ideas and names of sign designers that we should contact. Ken and Lucille will begin meeting with these designers to research our options and prices. A motion was made by John, seconded by Lucille to authorize a sign to be placed on front lawn, under the maple. Sign will run perpendicular to the street and will be supported by two posts. Motion carries 4-1. Ken with the dissenting vote. Names of sign designers: Rileys (Canton, CT), Giordano (Torrington), Sullivan Brothers (Wolcott)

Membership in the Seth Thomas-Bradstreet Society Commissioners- Commissioners should be part of the STB Society and should forward dues to Elaine. There is a minimum donation of \$30.00. This is an annual process. In addition, Elaine is looking for 10 names from each commissioner to include in our annual solicitation notice.

Garden Comm- No update

Issues regarding Bd of Selectmen/Bd of Finance responsibilities – Joe received and read response to his letter of Oct. 8, 2009 to Mike Rybak, Town Attorney.

Joe notified the commission of the resignation of Louanne Lauretano. A motion was made by Kristin, seconded by Lucille to recommend Val Polowy to the Board of Selectman to finish the term vacated by Louanne. Term ends 9/30/2012. Motion carries 5-0. Joe to send recommendation to Board of Selectman.

Other business- Val asked about placing plaques on donated items and recognizing all the volunteers and donations we have received. No action taken but we must have a way to display these volunteers and donations.

Next Meeting of the Historical Commission: November 24, 2009 at 7:30 pm in the Selectman's Conference Room, 4th Level, Town Hall

Motion made by Lucille, seconded by Kristin to adjourn meeting. Motion carries 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristin Mosimann O'Sullivan
Thomaston Historic Commission
Secretary