

**CITY OF NORWALK
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
JULY 22, 2009**

ATTENDANCE: David Park, Chairman; Peter Bondi; Eric Chandler; Thom Dunlap;
Charles Yost

OTHERS: Chris Cooke, LMMM; David Hoganbom, Roton Point Park

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Park called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES – June 24, 2009

** **MR. CHANDLER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED**
** **MOTION PASSED WITH TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (MR. DUNLAP AND MR. YOST)**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Park reported that he attended the Land Use and Building Management Committee meeting last week where both the exterior painting plan and the preservation plan were approved. These items will now go the full Council next week for their approval.

Mr. Park said that he spoke with Mr. Westmoreland and asked him about joining the Cemetery Committee. He agreed.

** **MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPOINT MR. WESTMORELAND TO THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE**
** **MR. CHANDLER SECONDED**
** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

REPORTS – BOARDS

A. Norwalk Historical Society

Mr. Park reported that Mr. Westmoreland was out of town, but his written report was included in this evening's packet.

Review and approve Boy Scout Eagle Project proposal for cleaning of headstones and brush removal at Mill Hill Park

Mr. Park explained the scope of the project and said that it would be done under the supervision of Mr. Westmoreland.

- ** **MR. CHANDLER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BOY SCOUT EAGLE PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR CLEANING OF HEADSTONES AND BRUSH REMOVAL AT MILL HILL PARK**
- ** **MR. YOST SECONDED**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Park said that the Norwalk Historical Society is seeking permission to paint the door of the Fitch Law Office. The Commission agreed to let them paint the door a complementary color.

B. Lockwood Mathews Mansion Museum

Review and approve LMMM draft RFP for the design of building services as it relates to the LMMM Master Plan Services dated 9/9/08

Mr. Park reported that he met with Mr. Foley, and a number of representatives of Lockwood Mathews Mansion to review the draft RFP that they created with the guidance of the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency. The draft RFP was reviewed and passed by Mr. Lo and the Purchasing Department. Mr. Park explained that the document is a work in progress.

- ** **MR. CHANDLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE LMMM DRAFT RFP FOR THE DESIGN OF BUILDING SERVICES AS IT RELATES TO THE LMMM MASTER PLAN SERVICES DATED 9/9/08**
- ** **MR. BONDI SECONDED**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Cooke joined the meeting at 7:06 p.m. and distributed a report dated July 21, 2009. He reported that they have shown a slow, but steady progress going on at the Mansion. Mr. Park informed Mr. Cooke that the basic concept was approved.

Mr. Cooke said that they have some rentals scheduled. In addition, they held a successful town meeting. He said that they intend to do several each year. Mr. Cooke said that they appreciate the replacement of the windows in the Music Room and in the Library.

Mr. Bondi said that Mr. Mauro is going to look at the broken windows on the verandah. Mr. Cooke said that their Assistant Executive Director is very talented in public relations and has been getting positive press for the Mansion.

Mr. Cooke said that they are challenged with operational income. He said that the tenant in the Gate House has been defunded under the Connecticut Tourism Bureau. He said that may be an opportunity for the Mansion to move their business office there, because it will be easier to heat that space during the winter. Mr. Cooke asked if the Commissioners had any questions, and there were none.

REPORTS – SUB-COMMITTEES

A. BUILDINGS

Mr. Bondi reported that Mr. Mauro is checking the Conservatory at the Mansion. He said that the painting and preservation plans were moving forward. They are now waiting for final approval by the Common Council.

B. CEMETERY

Mr. Park did not have a report this evening.

C. FINANCE

There was no report this evening.

D. NORWALK MUSEUM

Review and approval proposals of David Hoganbom, Roton Point Park Norwalk Museum Video

Mr. Hoganbom explained that he is a long time member of Roton Point. In 1992 he interviewed Rowayton residents and created a 44 minute video that looks at the history of Roton Point. He said that he talked to someone at City Hall about sponsoring a screening. He also asked the Commissioners how they felt about that. He asked if they would want to arrange a screening of the video for the people of Norwalk and if so, when.

Mr. Yost suggested making it a part of a Commission event. Mr. Bondi suggested touching base with City Hall to find out when the room would be available and then send out a press release announcing this event. Mr. Yost asked if there is an event at Roton Point this could tie into. Mr. Hoganbom said that Rowayton has a history day in September and he believes they are having a screening in October.

Mr. Hoganbom said that he would like to be able to get back some of his out of pocket costs by making copies of the video available for \$25.00 each. Mr. Bondi said that they could sell the video in the Museum Gift Shop. He also suggested having some videos available at the

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screening and donating a portion of the proceeds back to the Norwalk Museum. Mr. Park said that they will have to find out from the Law Department if it is permissible to sell videos at the screening.

- ** **MR. YOST MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL OF DAVID HOGANBOM, ROTON POINT PARK VIDEO**
- ** **MR. BONDI SECONDED**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Hoganbom agreed that he will be in contact with Mr. Bondi and Mr. Chandler.

Mr. Bondi reported that the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency wants to install a bicycle rack outside of the Museum. The Commissioners were agreeable.

Review and approve proposal to hold a Magic Show fundraiser

The Commission discussed holding a Magic Show fundraiser this Halloween. Mr. Dunlap expressed concern with the logistics in being able to have the event ready for this Halloween. The Commissioners agreed that it would be impossible to make it into the type of event they would like in such a short period of time. Mr. Park suggested starting on the concept in early summer 2010 to be ready for Halloween 2010.

MUSEUM CURATOR'S AND ASSISTANT TO THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION REPORT

Mr. Park said that the report was in everyone's packets and asked if there were any questions. There were none. He said that the banners in front of the Museum were still down.

Mr. Chandler reported that for the month of June, 337 visitors signed the guest book at the Museum. He noted that the sports exhibit is a big draw.

Mr. Bondi explained that the banners had to be re-printed because they were damaged during a recent storm.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURN

- ** MR. BONDI MOVED TO ADJOURN**
- ** MR. CHANDLER SECONDED**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

