

**CITY OF NORWALK  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: David Westmoreland, Chair; Glenn Iannaccone; Kathryn Martino;  
Richard McQuaid; Charles Yost

OTHERS: Patsy Brescia, Lockwood Mathews Mansion Museum;  
Diane Jellerette, Norwalk Historical Society

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Westmoreland called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES** – July 22, 2015 Regular Meeting

- \*\* MR. IANNACCONO MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED**
- \*\* MS. MARTINO SECONDED**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED WITH TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (MR. IANNACCONO AND MS. MARTINO)**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present this evening.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** – Commissioner Westmoreland

Mr. Westmoreland reported that it is almost budget season. He added that there is a lot going on.

**REPORTS – BOARDS**

A. Norwalk Historical Society – Diane Jellerette

Ms. Jellerette reported that the Norwalk Historical Society moved out of the Town House on Mill Hill and into the new Norwalk Museum at 141 East Avenue. An opening reception will take place in early November and invitations will be going out shortly.

B. Lockwood Mathews Mansion Museum – Patsy Brescia

Ms. Brescia reported that there is a lot going on everywhere. They are in the process of doing the electrical work on the first floor which needs to be completed in time for the opening of the new exhibit. She said that it has been a year long process and Mr. Westmoreland has been incredibly helpful and supportive.

The carpeting will go in next Tuesday. The annual flea market took place recently. Ms. Brescia reported that their first Naturalization ceremony took place at Lockwood Mathews Mansion yesterday. She said that it was an exciting event and 25 people from 18 countries became American citizens; two people were from Norwalk. She said that planning for this event took two years.

Ms. Brescia made remarks along with Mayor Rilling, Senator Duff and Congressman Himes. Judge Garfinkle presided over the ceremony.

The October 10<sup>th</sup> gala is almost sold out. They are now starting to look at physical improvements to the building and getting ready for the next budget cycle.

Ms. Brescia discussed the problem with the sewer system at the Mansion. She said that the Director of Public Works asked her if they thought about putting in a septic system instead of hooking up to the City sewer system.

Ms. Brescia thanked Mr. Westmoreland for all of his help.

## **REPORTS**

A. Buildings – Commissioner Westmoreland

Mr. Westmoreland report that there is a lot going on at Mill Hill. The Town House office was gutted and they are taking this opportunity to update everything. Renovations were last done in 1962. All of the emergency lighting is being updated and the security and fire alarm systems are being replaced.

The wall along Hubbel's Land is being redone. The remaining trees on the hillside to Wall Street will be removed. Removing the trees will open up the historic view.

The project to reconstruct the missing porch on the Gate House will begin shortly. They have been working hard to get the servants quarters completed and received three bids for the lighting project.

Three RFP responses were received for the next phase of the roof leak repair project. The ADA bathroom project at the new museum has been completed.

B. Cemeteries – Commissioner Cuzzone

Eagle Scout Project

There was no report presented this evening.

C. Finance – Commissioner Betts

Mr. Westmoreland reported that half of the expense budget has been spent on projects.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was discussed this evening.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Westmoreland reviewed the following items.

**\*\* MR. IANNACONE MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$20,000 BY YANKEE ELECTRIC, THE LOW BIDDER, FOR ELECTRICAL WORK IN THE SERVANT'S QUARTERS AT THE MANSION FROM ACCOUNT C0186 L-M MANSION CODE & REPAIRS.**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000 FOR PLASTER AND PAINTING IN THE SERVANT'S QUARTERS AT THE MANSION FROM ACCOUNT C0186 L-M MANSION CODE & REPAIRS.**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$216,000 TO THE MOST QUALIFIED BIDDER FOR PHASE III OF THE MANSION ROOF LEAK REPAIR PROJECT FROM ACCOUNT C0092 L-M MANSION ROOF. REFER TO LAND USE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$5,500 FOR STAIR CARPET RUNNERS FOR THE NEW MUSEUM FROM ACCOUNT C0449 NORWALK MUSEUM.**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000 FOR EXHIBIT CASES FROM THE LOW BIDDER, SELECT PLASTICS, FOR THE NEW MUSEUM FROM ACCOUNT C0449 NORWALK MUSEUM.**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000 FOR NEW EXIT SIGNS, EMERGENCY LIGHTING, AND ATTIC LIGHTING FOR THE TOWN HOUSE FROM ACCOUNT C0374 MILL HILL BUILDINGS.**

**AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$12,000 FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE FIRE DETECTION AND SECURITY SYSTEMS FOR THE TOWN HOUSE, SCHOOLHOUSE, AND GOVERNOR FITCH LAW OFFICE FROM ACCOUNTS C0374 MILL HILL BUILDINGS AND C0524 MILL HILL ADA.**

**\*\* MS. MARTINO SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Westmoreland explained that this is a request from the Norwalk Preservation Trust and would provide a public record of the theater. He said a large donation was received from the Connecticut Friends School of the playbills from every production. He noted that it would be great to have the building documentation.

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO REQUEST THAT A CONDITION BE ADDED BY THE ZONING COMMISSION TO THE APPLICATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WHITE BARN PROPERTY FOR THE DEVELOPER TO PROVIDE:**

**• HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY LEVEL 3 DOCUMENTATION OF BOTH THE WHITE BARN THEATRE AND LORTEL HOUSE TO BE CARRIED OUT BY A CONSULTANT QUALIFIED AS AN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN BY THE CT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ARCHITECT.**

**• PRESERVATION OF THE DRAWINGS FROM GEOFFREY HOLDER'S WEDDING ON THE DRESSING ROOM WALLS OF THE THEATRE, CONSERVED, REMOVED AND DONATED TO THE CITY'S MUSEUM COLLECTION.**

**\*\* MR. IANNACONE SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Iannaccone asked about the status of the sprinkler system at Lockwood Mathews Mansion. Mr. Westmoreland said that there is a plan for the sprinkler system, but they need funding; the cost is \$5 – \$6 million.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MS. MARTINO MOVED TO ADJOURN  
\*\* MR. YOST SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi  
Telesco Secretarial Services