



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Town of Chilmark

MEETING NOTES - APPROVED

June 6, 2022 (via ZOOM)

Present for the Historical Commission and attending the Zoom meeting were Jane Slater - Chair, James (Jim) Malkin, Barbara Armstrong and Alison Kisselgof - Administrator. Judith Flanders also attended. John Flender, Lenny Jason and Steve McGhee were not in attendance.

The meeting came to order at 3:00 PM.

NORTH ROAD STONE WALL RESTORATION CONTINUED DISCUSSION: Alison received an estimate for stone wall repair from Jimmy Morgan of Morgan Stone. The total cost quoted was \$11,920 to restore the stone wall at the Lundgren property along North Road.

Jim said this was far too big a project for the town to fund. Barbara agreed the costs was too much and suggested a cap on the amount spent per a project. She asked what the price has been for previous stone wall repairs. Alison gave some examples of costs for previous stone wall restorations – no projects over \$5,000 have been approved to date. Jim offered that Mr. Lundgren could come back to the Commission with a different, smaller proposal. Alison was asked to draft a letter to this effect.

WIND FARM IMPACT ON HISTORICAL HOUSES IN CHILMARK: The Commission had been provided with a Powerpoint presentation regarding a proposed wind farm off the coast. The presentation identified historic houses in Chilmark that would be impacted by the installation of the wind farm. It was requested that the Historical Commission review and discuss the proposal.

Jane was unclear on what the Commission could say about the proposal. Jim clarified the request by stating the wind farm company was just doing some homework prior to receiving authorization and wanted to get feedback on possible remediation for the impact, either monetary or other compensation.

A motion was made to notify the applicant that the Historical Commission has no action to recommend at this time. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Vote = Slater - aye, Malkin - aye, Armstrong - aye.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Since all members present did not have a chance to review the minutes from the 5/2/22 meeting, approval of these minutes will take place at the next scheduled meeting.



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OTHER TOPICS: Judith Flanders attended the meeting to discuss some issues that overlap between the Cemetery and Historical Commissions. She mentioned that the Cemetery Commission found some historical documents when cleaning out their file cabinets and wondered how the documents should be stored. Jane answered that the documents could be placed in the empty Historical Commission file cabinet available. Judith asked if anything specific needed to be done to preserve the file to which Jane replied no.

Judith also inquired about pictures of Nomans Land, specifically of the cemetery. Jane offered that John Flanders had documented the cemetery. She recalled that it was a family plot with no stones or markings. Jane suggested that the Cemetery Commission contact John regarding his pictures.

There was a discussion about access to Nomans Land. Judith wondered if there was a possibility of members of the Cemetery Commission going there to see the cemetery for themselves. Jim stated that the Navy goes there regularly but does not allow civilians to accompany them. Jim said it was not within the purview of the Historical Commission to arrange a trip to Nomans but maybe it could be arranged through other means.

Judith mentioned that Abel's Hill Cemetery was expanding and the Cemetery Commission was thinking of naming different sections to help visitors locate burial sites. She asked if the Historical Commission had any suggestions. Jane offered that it would be easier to use compass directions and that using names would be troublesome. Jim agreed with Jane's suggestion.

Jane said that she would like to step down as Chairperson of the Commission. She asked that the members consider Barbara for Chairmanship at the next meeting. Barbara offered that she is willing to lead the Commission but feels that she is the least knowledgeable amongst the members.

DOCUMENTS:

5/2/22 Draft Minutes

Morgan Stone North Road stonewall repair estimate

Wind Farm Powerpoint presentation

NEXT POSSIBLE MEETING: October TBD

With no further business to conduct the meeting adjourned at 3:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Alison Kisselgof, board administrator.