

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COUNCIL MEETING  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
Wednesday, September 5, 2018 @ 9:30 am  
North Tower, Conference Room J  
Meeting Minutes**

Call in: Dr. Margaret Faber, Ms. Katherine Kane (9:53 a.m.), Dr. Leah Glaser (left at 10:30 a.m.), Dr. Brian Jones, Chairwoman Sara Nelson, Ms. Karen Gilvarg, Dr. Jeffrey Partridge, Ms. Kathy Maher, Dr. Vernal (called in @ 9:46 a.m.)

Staff: Doug Royalty, Todd Levine (arrived at 10:01 a.m.), Elizabeth Shapiro, Deborah Gaston, Mary Dunne, Cathy Labadia, Alyssa Lozupone and Marena Wisniewski

Guests: Mr. Chuck Roberts – Middle Haddam  
Ms. Lois McCutcheon – Middle Haddam  
Mr. Ronal McCutcheon – Middle Haddam  
Mr. Paul Dzialo – Middle Haddam  
Mr. Richard Monda – Grange Resident  
Mr. Curtis Read – Grange, First Selectman  
Mr. Kevin Archer – Grange, Archer Engineering  
Ms. Jane Montanaro - CT Trust  
Mr. Kevin McQueen – Grange, Architecture Design  
Mr. Bartosz Teczthowski – Grange, Town Treasurer/Financial Admin.  
Ms. Susan Wilcox – Grange, Town Treasurer/Fiscal Admin.  
Ms. Delores Schiesel – Grange, Bridgewater Attorney  
Mr. David Goslin – Grange, Bridgewater Town Attorney  
Ms. Elizabeth Acly – Grange Structural Engineer  
Ms. Lisa Burns – Grange, Bridgewater resident  
Mr. David Goslin – Grange, Bridgewater, Crosskey Architect  
Ms. Linda Abbett – Grange, Bridgewater resident  
Mr. Brad Schide – CT Trust  
Hao Zhang – Grange, OAG  
Mr. Alan N. Ponanski - Grange, Office of the Attorney General

**I. Call to Order**

The conference call meeting of the Historic Preservation Council was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by Chairwoman Nelson. Items 1-5 will be discussed until 10:30 a.m. There will be a fifteen minute break, and we will resume the second half of the meeting @ 10:45 a.m. with the addition of a transcriptionist.

**II. Review of Public Comment Procedures**

Chairwoman Nelson reviewed public comment procedures.

### III. **Code of Conduct/Conflict of Interest**

Chairwoman Nelson reviewed the conflict of interest policy.

1. 5C. HRF - Dr. Faber recused herself as she prepared the Middle Haddam application (10:01 a.m.)
2. 5D. HRF - Peters House, Hebron. Chairwoman recused herself @10:12 a.m. and Ms. Gilvarg assumed the chair.

### IV. **Review and Approval Minutes**

#### ***a. August 1, 2018 Minutes***

On a motion by Dr. Faber, Second by Ms. Maher with corrections:

1. Pg. 2 Review of heading “Motion to approve as listed in the July 11<sup>th</sup> agenda actions”
2. Dr. Faber noted that Andrea Skwarek of East Haddam, is incorrectly referred to as “Angela.”

*(Y-4, N-0, Abstaining – Nelson, Partridge and Jones)*

### V. **State Historic Preservation Grants – Action Items**

#### ***a. Certified Local Government Grant: Town of Roxbury***

***(Original motion was withdrawn by Ms. Gilvarg second by Ms. Maher with all in favor. Chairwoman Nelson abstained. The correct agenda item was reread due to grant being changed to a CLG grant, which was not properly noted in the original motion.)***

***On a motion by Ms. Gilvarg, Second by Ms. Maher, the Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend the award of a Certified Local Grant, Historic Preservation Enhancement Grant funded by the Historic Preservation Fund of the Department of Interior, National Park Service to the below-listed applicant in the amount shown, \$15,000.00.***

***All grant guidelines and state requirements shall be met by the below-listed applicant upon receipt of a grant as administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development. Hearing no further discussion, motion passed.***

***(Y-7, N-0, Abstaining – Nelson)***

Ms. Dunne presented the grant, clarifying that the applicant is the Town of Roxbury not the library. This is a non-matching federal grant. Ms. Dunne reviewed the Certified Local Government program. The library is part of the State Historic District. Its condition is not too deteriorated, but the town would like to take preventative planning action.

Ms. Maher noted that the photographs and vender profile box was not checked in the application, and asked for further details into the RFP process following approval of the application. Ms. Dunne replied she will confer with the client to update the application, and to craft the RFP to ensure the selection of qualified consultants. Ms. Dunne further confirmed that the property is on the state register.

#### **b. Survey and Planning Grant, Connecticut Irish American Historical Society**

On a motion by Dr. Faber, Second by Ms. Maher, the Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend the award of a Survey and Planning Grant, funded by the Community Investment Act of the State of Connecticut, to the below-listed applicant in the amount shown. All grant guidelines and state requirements shall be met by the below-listed applicant upon receipt of a grant as administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), to the below-listed applicant in the amount of \$1,600.00. Hearing no further discussion, original motion was defeated.  
(Y-0, N-7, Abstaining – Nelson)

*On a motion by Dr. Vernal for CTIAHS, Second Ms. Maher. CTIAHS is asked to resubmit the grant with a line item clarification and a detailed project budget.*  
(Y-7, N-0, Abstaining – Nelson)

Ms. Dunne presented the application, noting that the applicant is seeking to upgrade and develop their web presence. She confirmed that they received a survey grant from SHPO in the past which was completed. Too much information was provided in this grant referring to a previous grant received in 2015.

Ms. Maher commented that this is not a lot of money for a website revision. She recommends that CTIAHS could provide more information and resubmit with additions to be clear on how they will be spending the grant award.

Dr. Jones noted that they did list a few items, such as a quarterly new letter, Ms. Maher interjected that is content not development. Need more specifics pertaining to this project. If they are going to reference anyone such as The CT League of History Organizations, there needs to be a letter of support included in the application.

Dr. Vernal asked if there was an option for them to revise and resubmit, so that they are clear on their budgetary needs and ask for more money if needed. Ms. Dunne replied yes, we can table the motion and have them submit a line item justification to why they are asking for this specific amount.

**c. Historic Restoration Fund Grant, Middle Haddam School, (East Hampton)**

On a motion by Dr. Jones, Second by Ms. Gilvarg, the Historic Preservation Council votes to approve a Historic Restoration Fund grant, funded by the Community Investment Act of the State of Connecticut and administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), to the below-listed applicant in the amount of \$50,000.00. All grant guidelines and state requirements shall be met by the below-listed applicant upon receipt of a grant administered by DECD.  
(Y-7, N-0, Abstaining – Nelson)

**Dr. Faber recused herself at 10:00 a.m.**

Ms. Lozupone presented the application as recommended by staff. She has visited the site with Dr. Faber and agrees that the repairs are needed and the work plan is appropriate. She noted that a letter of support arrived after the application was put in DropBox and requested that it be

submitted to the Council. Several volunteers from the Middle Haddam Association were present and have participated in the restoration efforts for the school. This restoration will help support the structure of the building and also prevent further deterioration.

Chairwoman Nelson noted that the group should work with an architect to determine how the roof will be insulated and ventilated. She suggested that the repair/replacement of the damaged pilaster, clear pine should not be used because it is not hearty enough.

Ms. Maher commented that there is usually a more extensive spec detail required and that was not included with this application. Ms. Lozupone responded she will work with the Association to improve the bid specs.

Chairwoman Nelson asked whether this project would be subject to a prevailing wage. Ms. Shapiro clarified the prevailing wage restrictions come into effect when the project is one million dollars or above.

Ms. Maher asked if an architect has been chosen yet. Ms. Lozupone replied no, not as of yet.

Members of the Association and others spoke in support of the application as follows:

Chuck Roberts – 7 year member of the Association, now Vice President. Presented the mission of the organization and emphasized the community's support for the project.

Lois McCutcheon – Secretary since 2005

Paul Dzialo – Volunteer, Grant Writing Professional

Ronal McCutcheon – Volunteer

**Dr. Faber returned to the meeting @10:12 a.m.**

**d. Restoration Grant Fund Grant, Peters House (Hebron)**

**Chairwoman Nelson recused herself @10:12 a.m.**

**Ms. Gilvarg assumed Chair in Chairwoman Nelson's absence.**

On a motion by Ms. Maher, Second by Dr. Faber, the Historic Preservation Council votes to approve a Historic Restoration Fund grant, funded by the Community Investment Act of the State of Connecticut and administered by the Department of Economic and Community

Development (DECD), to the below-listed applicant in the amount of \$15,500.00.

All grant guidelines and state requirements shall be met by the below-listed applicant upon receipt of a grant administered by DECD.

(Y-6, N-0, Abstaining – Gilvarg)

Ms. Lozupone presented the application as recommended by staff. She has visited the site twice, once to close out a previous grant which was successfully completed. This is another great example of volunteers and town working together to ensure project completion. The project manager is working with Ms. Labadia and Dr. Jones regarding the archaeology of the site. Ms. Maher noted that this is a strong application.

Dr. Jones wondered aloud where the real Reverend Peter's house is located.

**VI. State Register of Historic Places Nominations**

*None*

**VII. Local Historic District/Property Study Report**

**VIII. Archaeological Preserves**

*None*

**IX. Threatened Properties**

**a. Bridgewater Grange, Town of Bridgewater**

\*Mr. Andrew Paluch, transcriber took over the meeting when the meeting reconvened after break at 10:47 a.m.

**X. Preservation Restrictions**

*None*

**XI. Report on State Historic Preservation Office Activities – Liz Shapiro**

*(Items XI and XII were moved to the first half of the meeting due to meeting timing)*

Ms. Shapiro advised the group that she has been named Interim Director of Culture upon the departure of Kristina Newman-Scott until a new director is found. She will be covering Connecticut Office of the Arts, SHPO and museum staff at this time.

The draft of our 5-year plan is with the Park Service right now and staff is waiting for their review. Staff will advise HPC of the period of public comment.

Ms. Labadia spoke about the Native American Fort in Norwalk, and the recent publicity it has received, both positive and negative. She emphasized that the treatment of every archeological site is dependent on its unique presentation. Ms. Labadia and Dr. Jones sent a letter to *The Hour*, of Norwalk, in response to previous letters to the editor.

**XII. Report on Museum Properties – Liz Shapiro**

**Museum Staff:**

There is a new seasonal employee at Old New-Gate Prison, Abigail Demke. Morgan Bengel, site administrator, has given her rave reviews.

**Museums General:**

**Sloane Museum:**

The museum has officially closed for the season in order to dismantle and store the exhibits. Suzie Fateh, former registrar at the Mattatuck Museum, and the New York Historical Society, is

coordinating the move with museum staff assisting. The hope is that the collections will be moved to safe storage by the end of October. While the museum is officially closed, some special events and programs will continue.

In other news, Jim Mauck, president of the Friends of Eric Sloane Museum, informed me yesterday that he has received the building permit for the reconstruction of the Noah Blake cabin so the museum, although closed to the public, will be busy during the fall as weather permits.

### **New-Gate Prison & Copper Mine**

New-Gate continues to be a popular destination. Between the Mineral Show on August 25, and two productions of the commissioned play about life at the prison on August 26, over 850 people were onsite. The third Sunday free to CT residents also drew big crowds, with 842 people visiting in one day!

Morgan Bengel is continuing to work with a wide range of audiences, currently she has been contacted by school groups, college professors, and researchers.

Staff and volunteers are working to finish planning for our two big events in October - "Escape from Old New-Gate Prison" on September 29/30, and Halloween at Old New-Gate Prison, October 26/27. The site will host the Connecticut Coalition for History on September 14, and a group of museum professionals from the Connecticut League of History Organizations, on October 13.

The painting/roofing project for Viets, and the White and Yellow cottages was delayed, but the kick off meeting is scheduled for Monday September 10. With luck, the work will begin within ten work days from that time.

### **Prudence Crandall Museum:**

Prudence Crandall Day was held at the museum on Saturday September 1, it was well-attended, although staff feels that it's time to take a closer look at the current museum programs. Joanie DiMartino has been making connections (as well as learning state procedures, giving tours, supervising volunteers, and fixing Internet and phones) with groups that work to ensure educational opportunities for underserved audiences as we pursue our mission of emancipation through education.

Plans are still underway for a complete restoration of the house, which if we play our cards correctly, should start by late summer, 2019.

### **Henry Whitfield State Museum:**

The museum staff have been accommodating the usual number of visitors in spite of the heat which can get oppressive in the Whitfield House. Staff have been engaged in some very interesting discussions about new directions for this museum as well, that link the advent of the colonial revival of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to the current US response to immigrants. This is a potentially interesting and exciting path for to follow. Staff at Henry Whitfield has been instrumental in training Joanie DiMartino in her role as curator at Prudence Crandall, they have carried the bulk of the burden.

**XIII. Old Business**

**XIII. New Business**

**XIV. Liaison with Public & Private Agencies – Ms. Jane Montanaro, CT Trust**

**XV. Public Forum**

**XVI. Adjournment**

**Meeting minutes for the first half of the meeting respectfully submitted by:**

**Deborah Gaston, Secretary**

*Next meeting  
Wednesday, October 3, 2017, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Call*

