



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

**Orleans Historical Commission
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 4:00 pm**

This was a hybrid meeting of the Orleans Historical Commission convened in the Skaket Room at Town Hall, with remote participation also provided by Zoom technology. Real-time public access was provided by Orleans Channel 8 on the Town website and cable television.

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Historical Commission Chair Ron Petersen. Also attending, and thus constituting a quorum were Committee Vice Chair Joan Nix, Members Charles Ellis, Bill Wibel, Edmund Marcarelli, and Associate Members Francis Mustaro and David Herrick.

Also, in attendance: Historic Preservation Consultant Eric Dray (participated part-time). Peggy O'Sullivan provided technical and video assistance.

(00:00) Public Comment

There was no public comment.

(00:30) Discussion on future scheduling of HC and HDSC

Mr. Petersen discussed the current scheduling of these two groups. Currently, the Historical Commission is meeting for 45-minutes, followed by the HD Study Committee meeting for 1-2 hours immediately after. Ms. Nix also cited technical issues with the Town IT and Clerks offices needing to separate meeting notices and video recordings.

(03:00) Update on archeological project – Peck Property

Mr. Petersen and Mr. Marcarelli met with Dan Zoto, an Archeologist for the study. Mr. Petersen said that the two Wampanoag Tribal Councils have been contacted, with no response received to date. At the November meeting, Mr. Petersen would like to have a “kick-off” meeting with the Archeologist to discuss and introduce the project. Interested parties would be invited, such as the Select Board, Pond Coalition, and others, along with the public. The goal of the project is to add to the history of Orleans, and to date the community’s start prior to the English colonization of the Cape in 1620.

Mr. Wibel asked if the survey is going to touch on the geological formations that were here during the time; Mr. Marcarelli noted that the Archeologist will look at the landscape and may be able to determine geologically what is in the area. Mr. Petersen noted that the project is limited to the Peck Property.

(09:00) Historical Commission CPC applications for next year

Mr. Ellis said there were no applications received to-date, but the expectation is for them to come in during the last week of October and first and second weeks of November. There is no clarity on available funding currently, but some larger projects are expected for submission.

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Mr. Petersen considered that the HC would be in an application for \$25,000 to expand the abovementioned archeological survey. Mr. Marcarelli reminded the HC that \$15,000 was requested last year for the Peck Property study. Mr. Ellis noted the importance of clarifying the reason for the increased request amount and outlining exactly what would be done in the project. Mr. Ellis recommended drafting an application letter for the HC to discuss at the November 8 meeting. Applications are due November 20 to the CPC.

An additional application the HC is looking to submit is to fund the continuation of the Form B updates, being done by Mr. Dray. There are 238 left to be updated; 50 have been updated to-date, and 25 are in process. Mr. Dray noted that there are an additional 150 that need to be created, for a total of 388 Form Bs that need attention. The total cost would be around \$120,000 to complete the comprehensive survey. The HC discussed the best way to approach obtaining the funding, either in phases or in one CPC application.

Mr. Marcarelli asked if the CPC funds carried after one year; Mr. Ellis said yes. The HC was in consensus to submit one application for the total cost of \$120,000. Mr. Petersen will work on the application, in conjunction with Mr. Dray.

Mr. Petersen discussed the funds that support Mr. Dray's work on the Historic District, noting that there are \$12,776 remaining in the current grant. Mr. Ellis discussed potential future funding opportunities, such as CPC funds. The HDSC will discuss this at their meeting and put together a proposal. The HC discussed the costs and processes related to the use of a consultant for implementation of a Historic District. Mr. Dray will draft a sample proposal for consultant services and provide the HC and HDSC with that at a future meeting.

(45:00) Appointment of committee to study enhancements of Demo Delay Bylaw

This item will be tabled until the next meeting.

(46:00) Review/approve minutes

Mr. Marcarelli moved to approve the minutes of September 13, 2023; Mr. Wibel seconded. The Commission voted 5-0-0 with Mems. Marcarelli, Ellis, Petersen, Wibel, and Ms. Nix voting "aye".

(50:00) Adjourn:

Ms. Nix moved to adjourn at 4:50pm; Mr. Wibel seconded. The Commission voted 5-0-0 with Mems. Marcarelli, Ellis, Petersen, Wibel, and Ms. Nix voting "aye".