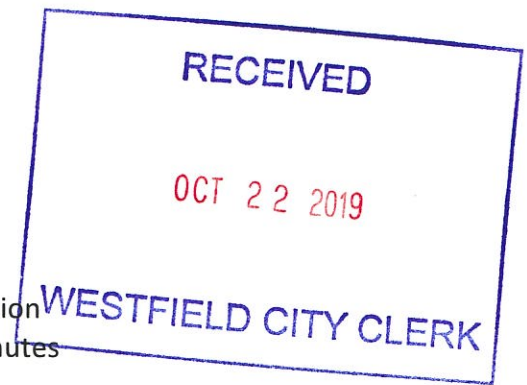




Westfield Historical Commission  
October 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes



Commission Chair Cindy Gaylord, as well as Commissioners Carly Bannish, Cindy Bronson, Michael Ingraham, Ellen McEwan, Debbie Oppermann, and Amanda Goodheart Parks present. Commissioner Gaylord called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

**Public Participation:**

Joyce Peregrin of Westfield, member of the 350th Celebration Fundraising Committee, donated a draft version of a historic Westfield coloring book to the Commission. The coloring book was developed using the free Colorscape app. Westfield Technical Academy Graphic Arts Department agreed to print the coloring books for \$0.98 each on basic craft paper.

The Commission discussed the possibility of printing coloring books and donating them to other organizations throughout the city as a gift to the community. Another suggestion was to create a PDF of the pages and make them available on the commission website. Commissioner McEwan suggested reaching out to the Historical Society, Amelia Park Children's Museum, and other non-profits as potential collaborators. A small group of Commissioners will meet before the November 18, 2019 meeting to sort through the pages and determine next steps.

**Secretary's Report:**

Commissioner Goodheart Parks, Secretary submitted minutes from the September 2019 Meeting. Commissioner McEwan made a motion to accept the secretary's report. Commissioner Bannish seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Commissioner Bannish, Treasurer, reported the following balances:

General Fund: \$5,125.00

Historical Gift Account: \$14,864.42

G/L Account: No report given from City Auditor this month.

**Mail:**

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director of the Massachusetts Historical Commission, wrote to notify the Commission of a National Historic Register application submitted for the former Moseley School building located at 25 Dartmouth Street.

Robert C. McKean, Managing Director of Stanley Park, wrote to thank the Historical Commission for the donation of four tickets to the 2019 Old Burying Ground Ghost Tours for their annual fundraising event.

Ann Lentini of Westfield wrote thanking the Commission for this year's Old Burying Ground Ghost Tours. Enclosed in the letter was a \$50.00 donation to the ongoing Old Burying Ground restoration.

**Unfinished Business:**

## 2019 Old Burying Ground Ghost Tours:

Commissioner Gaylord shared lots of positive feedback from visitors about this year's tours. Final revenue figures and expenses will be reported at the November meeting as several bills are still being processed. Commissioner Gaylord reported that there was a theft of Jay Pagiluca's lighting equipment and fog machines from the Old Burying Ground sometime during the evening of Saturday 28, 2019. Westfield Police Department was notified, and a GoFundMe fundraiser has been set up for Jay to cover the costs of replacement/new equipment.

## Jay Pagiluca:

Commissioner McEwan made a motion to provide Jay Pagiluca with a donation as a thank you for his support of the Old Burying Ground Ghost Tours. Commissioner Bannish seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## Historic Papers to High School:

Commissioner Ingraham did not have an update on this item and will follow up with the commission at the next meeting.

## 350th Lecture Series Update:

Commissioner Gaylord shared dates for the upcoming lecture series including Michael McCabe on November 13, 2019 and Walter Powell sometime in February 2020.

## Pilgrim Candle Update:

Commissioner Gaylord received an email from the architect involved with the Pilgrim Candle/Bismarck Hotel renovation project requesting the Commission's support for utilizing the front door of the property now that the majority of the front porch's renovations are complete. Commissioner Gaylord will follow up with them directly.

## Teacher Textbooks:

Commissioner Gaylord reported that the Westfield Athenaeum does not want this donation of historic textbooks. The Commission looked through the titles and selected some to save for use in the Wyben Schoolhouse. The remaining titles will be discarded.

## Ta Mara Conde:

Commissioner Gaylord reported that Ta Mara Conde will be meeting with members of the Commission on November 2, 2019 to discuss the upcoming restoration of the Old Burying Ground's wrought iron fencing, front gate, and family plot fences.

**New Business:**

## October CPC Meeting Report:

Commissioner Gaylord reported on the recent CPC meeting wherein the Westfield Athenaeum requested and received a 35 year deed restriction on their CPC funded project and the owner of the Stowe House requested and received a 15 year deed restriction on their CPC funded project. Commissioner Gaylord also reported that all future CPC projects will have "in perpetuity" deed restrictions going forward. Commissioner McEwan made a motion to approve these restrictions, and Commissioner Bannish seconded. The motion passed unanimously with several commissioners voicing support for the "in perpetuity" restriction going forward.

Commissioner Gaylord also reported that a \$250,000 CPC grant was awarded to the Gene Borowski, owner of 81-89 Elm Street, in support of exterior renovations for the former Lamson Furniture Company building.

Marty Och's building:

Commissioner Bannish reported that Mary Och, owner of 144 Elm Street, requested guidance regarding the creation of a historic plaque for her property. Commissioner Bannish will follow up stating that the owner is free to put a plaque on the property if they wish to do so.

New Pocket Sites tour:

Commissioner Bannish made a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McEwan and passed unanimously. Commissioner Bannish requested that commissioners look at the current Pocket Sites tour and bring new stops/sites that they would like to see added to the tour to the next meeting.

Sign/Marker for Old Burying Ground:

Commissioner Bannish made a motion to table this discussion until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McEwan and passed unanimously.

Commissioner McEwan made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bronson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: November 18, 2019, December 16, 2019, January 27, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Goodheart Parks, Ph.D., Secretary  
Westfield Historical Commission