

**Northampton Historical Commission  
Minutes**

**DATE:** Monday, January 31, 2022  
**TIME:** 5:30 PM  
**PLACE:** Remote Online Meeting

Member	Present
Martha Lyon, Chair	X
Barbara Blumenthal, Vice-Chair	X
Jonathan Daube	X
Steven Moga	X
Dylan Gaffney	
Harvey Hill	X
Craig Della Penna	X
Sarah LaValley - staff	X

Martha Lyon called the meeting to Order, 5:30 PM

**Public Comment**

None

**Chair’s Report**

Martha stated that the subcommittee met to work on the historic preservation plan request for proposal.

**Requests for Support for CPA Application - Laurel Park Association**

Sandra Matthews provided an overview of the project and the history of Laurel Park. The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Methodist Camp meeting site is approaching, and few people are aware of the significance of Laurel Park. It’s part of the mission to bring people from beyond the Park into Laurel Park to provide information about history, interpretive signs will convey information so It is not lost. Laurel Park is a fully secular community that is continuing the Chautauqua tradition.

Barbara noted there are concerns about providing benefits to private groups, and asked about access. Sandra replied that all roads are open and the public is welcome. Craig added that it is one of the most affordable neighborhoods in Northampton. Steve provided additional information about Laurel Park; it has a well-established historic context.

Jonathan moved to determine Laurel Park significant in the history of Northampton, and to strongly support the CPA request. Seconded by Craig, the motion carried unanimously.

**Review Draft Historic Section of CPA Plan**

Martha provided an overview of the CPA, and the plans role as a guidance document. Steve noted that the section will be helpful for the preservation plan consultant. Martha added that that it is the only CPA plan section that is not able to reference a larger comprehensive planning document.

**Section 106 Reviews**

*Mount Tom Road (Rt 5) Shared Use Path*

The Commission agreed that the state historic preservation officer should look at possible archaeological review.

*150 Main Street Rooftop Antennas*

Elevations were not provided, but the Commission agreed there could be some visual impact to the downtown national register district.

**Section 106 Review, Mount Tom Road (Rt 5) Shared Use Path**

The Commission agreed that additional information is needed, including possible analysis of effect beyond the provided project statement.

**Other Business Not Foreseen**

Sarah stated that the Commission received a letter noting that the Clarke School National Register district consideration by MassHistoric will be March 9.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM