

Friends of Mechanics Hall

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2013; 7:00 pm. Meeting held at the Town Hall Annex

In attendance:

Tom Daly, Alex Fiandaca, Mark Fiandaca, Annmarie Hurley, Faith Pistrang, Larry Pistrang, Karen Rossow, Ken Seims, Mickey Splaine, Geoff Yaglou

The meeting began shortly after 7 pm. An agenda was distributed.

Item #1 – Preservation Conference, Friday, October 18th from 8 AM to 6 PM in Lexington, MA – Alex reminded everyone of this upcoming conference, presented by the Mass Preservation Coalition. Many topics relevant to MH will be covered in workshops throughout the day. It is hoped that a few Friends will be able to attend so that many of the workshops can be covered.

Item #2 – Building and Grounds Update – Mark reported that a demolition permit was approved for the removal of obsolete duct work in the basement. The basement has been cleaned and it is now 70% duct-less. Further work will be required to remove the piles of wood et al. There are plans for additional trimming of the trees in the back.

Item #3 - WPI Engineering Study: Ken handed out an announcement that was presented to John Lebeaux re: the cooperative venture between the FOMH and WPI. Three senior civil engineering students (Matthew Cogswell, Nathan Jaworski and Matthew Sprague) will perform a structural review and an engineering study of the entire building. A final report will be presented in the spring of 2014. The students made their first visit to MH on Monday, 9/9 and will make frequent visits in the future. There is no charge to the FOMH for this study.

Item #4 - Town-Wide Yard Sale: Faith reminded everyone of the Drop-off dates that have been scheduled for Sat., 9/14 from 10 AM to Noon; Tues., 9/17 and Tues., 9/24 from 3 to 5:30 PM. Where possible, items will be priced as they arrive and pricing dates have been set for Wed., 9/18 and Wed., 9/25 from 1 to 3:30 PM. Alex will ask the Friends of the Library if we may borrow tables for the yard sale. Faith asked for people to volunteer to assist on the Drop-Off dates and additional volunteers agreed to help. Baked goods will also be offered for sale. If you plan to bake something, please contact Faith. Set-up efforts will begin at 6 AM on the day of the yard sale. A special thanks was offered to Karen for creating the yard sale signs and to Judy for creating the yard sale flyer.

Item #5 – Ad Space in the Landmark – Ken will follow-up with The Landmark to determine how much advertising space we are entitled to for our \$280 credit.

Item #6 – The Armoire – Faith announced that the armoire, left over from last year's yard sale, was sold for \$175.

Item #7 – Mickey approached local artist Denyse Dar who has offered to create an image of MH that she would then donate to the Friends so that reprints could be sold to benefit the building.

Item #8 – Alex mentioned that former American Legion member Ed Foresteire has expressed an interest in the contents of the Legion cabinet in MH and would like to participate in any cataloging efforts.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 10th at 7 PM in the Town Hall Annex.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Seims
Secretary, FOMH