

**CITY HALL RESTORATION COMMISSION
SUMMARY OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY MAY 10TH 2010**

Location: Third Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

Present: Jan Bell, J.J. Bell, Steve Dexter, Matt Lustig, Maggie Rosa, Suzanne Silveira, Susan St. Pierre, State Senator Bruce Tarr

Meeting opened at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes of April 26th meeting

Tabled until next meeting

Clock/Bell Project Update

Slow progress but J.J. continues to follow up with David Campbell and Mark Almeda.

Action Item: Maggie to invite David Campbell to the next meeting to discuss the Bell & Clock Project as well as other maintenance issues

Maintenance Issues

Maggie emailed Mike Hale requesting that he include a \$6000 line item for an annual inspection using a crane/bucket truck to view the gutters etc. No response.

No update on the auditorium window repair.

Action Item: Maggie to review meeting summaries to update the list of action items and maintenance issues.

At 10:15 a.m. State Senator Bruce Tarr arrived. The Commission provided him with the background information, including a copy of the Case for Preservation, for seeking funding to complete the rest of the exterior of City Hall. Bruce was also informed about the efforts to seek the National Historic Non-Contiguous Landmark status for buildings in Gloucester.

Main points from the ensuing discussion included:

- Amending the State Cultural Facilities grant opportunity to include smaller facilities. It was noted that Rockport Music's building received money from the Cultural Facilities fund.
- CPA funding – Bruce thinks that it will be hard to pass the bill to require that the state match be 75% because this requires increasing the filing fees to raise the money. Bonding issue was discussed.
- Earmarks is one way to go but money is less available; and obviously, we need to ensure that there is full communication with the rest of the city's needs.
- Massachusetts continues to lose people and the jobs aren't opening up.
- Bruce has attempted, thus far unsuccessfully, to get legislation passed that would enable maintenance/preservation of municipal buildings. This is in part because the task is so huge. State funded schools and transportation building assistance requires that the municipalities agree to maintain these structures.
- Cultural districts in Gloucester were briefly discussed as a means of elevating the status of buildings and districts.

At 11:23 a.m Bruce left.

Fundraising

Suzanne presented information about a Honey Do auction which involved a live auction for a full day's service by carpenters, landscapers, painters, etc. The Honey Do auction has been very successful in New Hampshire.

Action Item: Maggie to write up the CPA Eligibility Determination Form

Falcons

Erik Amati visited City Hall last week and spoke with Tim, the custodian. The falcons have not nested in City Hall and it is now past the deadline for their nesting decision. Apparently, construction does not faze falcons and it is more likely that construction workers will be scared by the birds as opposed to the birds being scared.

Mass. Historical Commission Preservation Award

Our application was not successful.

Auditorium Sound System

Joanne Senos told Maggie that a company from Essex is looking at the City Council microphones and so Maggie told Joanne about the need to check out the wireless microphone purchased in 2008 from Williams Communications Services.

Meeting closed at 11:40 a.m. Next Meeting; May 17th at 10:00 a.m.