



Pierce Property Committee

9/19/18 at 4:00pm in Donaldson Room at Town Offices

Present: Nancy Beach(Pierce House Event Manager), Tim Higgins (Town Manager), Terry Green, (Chair), Lucia MacMahon, Jean Horne, Pam Weismann, Gina Halstead (FinCom liaison)

In Attendance- Ken Bassett (Tree warden), Sheila Dennis, Tom Henry, Nancy Donaldson, Jennifer Glass(Selectman)

Meeting called to order at 4:01

Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Discussion

a. Ken Bassett- Tree & plantings

- **Holistic landscaping plan (handout)**
- **Committee is looking for 5 year plan with prices for plantings to improve the property; entrance of Weston Road needs to be densely planted, and a new beech tree needs to be planted out in front of the house to replace the one that was lost**
- **Need to discuss how the plan is executed- could the DPW plant the trees for us?**
- **Creating a more elegant entrance with plantings**
- **Ken will give the plan some thought and come back in November with his ideas**
- **Ken will walk the property with Committee members prior to November**
- **Maybe the Lincoln Garden Club will consider a donation for the plantings**
- **Compacting the soil along Weston Rd by the stonewall is hard on the trees especially for maple trees**

b. Sound Abatement Update

- **Committee is committed to do what we need to do meet the regulations of 10 dB above the ambient level**

Recommendation from Nancy and Tim:

- **We have a sound meter and protocol for measuring the sound levels with data recording - consistent protocol- measure 3 different times during the evening and measure: in field and near property line at 28 Weston Rd. (handout Pierce House : Sound Measurement Guidelines Sept. 2018); Tom Henry suggested we hire VHB sound engineer to monitor sound continually at 28 Weston Rd. Property line and respond when sound level exceeds the 10 dB level; suggested we use Bose L1 surround sound system stations rather than distributed sound system**
- **Action Item: Tim and Nancy will contact with VHB on system for continuous monitoring the sound at 28 Weston Rd property line**
- **Authorize Nancy to work on music location - work with DJ to find the location of music and direction of speakers that creates least sound to our abutters**

- Motion: Committee approves the protocol and to authorize Nancy to experiment with band and DJ at different speaker locations. Motion passed unanimously
- Consider other measures if the first 2 don't work- turn the sound level down further, purchase a distributed sound system (\$20,000), bass traps and curtain are not as helpful as expected
- Anne suggested we limit new contracts to just DJ's or a band with not more than 5-6 pieces rather than an expensive sound system
 - c. Sign for Pierce House Update
- Stone wall needs to be in character with the old wall in place on Weston Rd. , graphics need to be considered too
- Anne and Nancy met with 2 different stone masons(Ramson, and Ian Foreman) for an estimate for a wall in front of Pierce House with a stone with Pierce House name engraved
- Like to put the wall plans together with the plantings plan from Ken Bassett- Anne and Nancy will work with Ken to create this plan and a sketch
- Need approval from Historic Commission with an application
 - d. Pricing/ usage of property for non- profits
- Old Town Hall request use Dec. 1-2, Gift Local- Committee approved charging just a cleaning fee for the use of the House
 - e. Tent Renewal 2019
- Continue with Come Rain or Shine tents for the next seasons
- Weekday rentals will not incur a tent charge to tent company - Pierce House can keep the rental fee
- 25% rebate to the Pierce House for weekend tent rentals
- Motion: We stay with the same tent company for next year. Motion passed unanimously
 - f. Welcoming New Committee Members process
- 7 members, 3 year terms, submit a statement of interest and appointed by the Selectman
- Proposal: Invite prospective new members to a Pierce House Committee meeting prior to filling out a form and seeking approval by Selectman but it is not a requirement for becoming a member. Tabled for further reflection and discussion.

III. Pierce House Manager's Report (Handout dated September 2018)

Proposal: To increase the kitchen fee for 2019 to \$250. Passed unanimously.

Budget review(Handout Pierce House Financial Information dated 2015-2018)

Lightening- Dark Skies bylaw- speak to the planning board on guidelines.

Motion: approve parking lot lightning which is in compliance with the Dark Skies bylaw. \$2350. Approved unanimously.

Motion: approve \$2300 office renovations. Approved unanimously.

CapCom requests:

Feasibility study on an ADA Compliant bathroom on the first floor.

Culvert repair

Paving

IV. Action Items

- a. Review/approval of July minutes- Minutes were approved unanimously
- b. Requisition approvals

Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.
Next meeting Wednesday, October 3 at 4pm

“Our mission is to be stewards of this historic property so that residents of Lincoln, neighbors, and guests may continue to use the Pierce House as a venue to gather and celebrate, in keeping with the spirit of John H. Pierce's gift to the Town of Lincoln.” (approved March 20, 2016)