

**Norfolk Historical Commission
Meeting Minutes - June 21, 2016**

Our last official meeting before the summer break featured an Open House at the Tramp House. Betsy Pyne called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm just outside of the Tramp House. Additional members present included Sandra Paquette, Betsey Whitney, Marcia Johnston, Gail Sullivan and Geri Tasker. Guests included Carissa Damore, Greg Stahl, Paul Comendul and his two children. Members of the community visited during the course of the evening.

Geri read the minutes from our May meeting; a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read.

Sweatshirts: Marcia will submit a voucher for \$398.13 to reimburse Sandra, who paid for the Tramp House Sweatshirts. A payment of \$179.00 will be taken from the regular fund and the balance of \$219.00 will be taken from the Gift Fund. Members will reimburse the Gift Fund; cost of the sweatshirts comes to \$35.00. We decided to give a sweatshirt to Thelma as a gift. In all 12 sweatshirts were ordered; 8 have been accounted for and 7 paid for by the members. The remaining ones will be offered for sale. Sandra did a great job, and the sweatshirts look great.

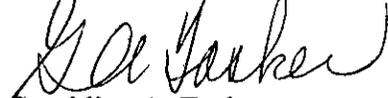
Solomon Blake House: Carissa Damore, from the Society for Preservation of New England Antiquities, is the Supervising Preservation Services Manager for Historic New England; currently their mission is the preservation of 103 properties from Caribou, Maine to Stanford, Connecticut. She reported on the preservation restriction on the Solomon Blake House (ca. 1762) located at 94 North Street, Norfolk. They are working with Mass Audobon Society to preserve the house. According to the MA Statute Chapter 184, the town and the commonwealth of MA must approve the restriction to be *perpetual* otherwise it will only last for 30 years. The SPNEA would like us to recommend to the selectmen at Town Meeting that the preservation restriction be deemed *perpetual*. Renovation plans such as a roof replacement would be submitted for review to assure the original historic character would be maintained. The bathrooms and kitchen can be renovated in keeping with modern conveniences. The barn is protected as long as it is standing; if it is deemed unsafe and torn down, a replacement could be built in its footprint as long as the plans are approved. This stipulation would be in place for the 20th century garage as well. Sandra made a motion to approve the recommendation of a perpetual preservation restriction; Marcia seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Wrentham News: Greg found two old Wrentham Tax bills: one original from 1735 and a copy of one from 1746. These bills came directly from England's King George, and the 1735 bill also included funds owed by Falmouth, Maine. Greg contacted the folks in Maine and will send them a copy featuring their overdue tax bill. The WHC is in the process of having copies made of these documents.

In addition, Greg thinks that the yellow house located at the intersection of Cleveland, Holbrook, and Turner Streets may have been the first house in Norfolk (ca. 1751). Greg states that according to the Registry of Deeds that one of the Holbrook sons purchased an existing farm that may have been the Gay Farm at that location. There has been some discussion about the farm's location at another location nearby, but his current research is indicating otherwise. He is working on a map of the location.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. A. Tasker".

Geraldine A. Tasker

Recording Secretary