

Woodstock Historic District Commission  
Regular Meeting via Zoom  
July 26, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order at 6:36 PM by Gail Usher. Present at the meeting were Gail Usher , Stan Swanson, Toby Bishop, and Earl Manz.
2. Appointment of alternates: None
3. Review of Minutes: Toby Bishop moved to approve the May meeting minutes, Stan Swanson seconded, unanimous approval.
4. Correspondence: Gail Usher received correspondence from Mary Dunn from State Preservation, on historic district markers funding, and from Terrie Boshka of Woodstock concerning the possibility of placing a marker at Eliot Rock.
5. Public Comment: None
6. Project consultations: A. Woodstock Burying Ground: Tom Chase reported on his consultation with an arborist on dead branches and dead trees that border on or are on the Woodstock Burying Ground. If there is no hope to salvage such branches/trees, such branches or trees will be removed. B. Eliot Rock Marker: Terrie Boshka wrote concerning the possibility of getting an historical marker for Eliot Rock. She contacted the William G. Pomeroy Foundation for funding but the Foundation will only provide funding for an historically accurate site, and Eliot Rock is not verifiable as an historic site. She also contacted four churches in Woodstock to see if they wanted to be involved in the markers, and also if they would like to participate in a program for September, 2024 (350 year anniversary of Eliot Rock). Since Eliot Rock is on private property, permission of the property owner would also need to be obtained. Even if a marker can not be placed at the site, a program could still be held. There is a John Eliot Church of Natick, MA still in existence which might participate in any ceremony, as well as Nipmuck groups in the Worcester area. Gail Usher will check with the property owner about the possibility of a marker.
7. Old Business: A. Historic District Marker: Mary Dunn reported that there is no funding available for historic district markers. There is funding for a kiosk that could be placed on the Common or at the Center for Woodstock History. B. Member Recruitment: The Commission is still short two alternate members from full capacity.
8. New Business: None
9. Adjournment: Stan Swanson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Toby Bishop. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Earl Manz, Clerk. These minutes may be published but the Commission does not approve them until the next regular meeting. The link to the Zoom meeting is [https://youtu.be/JluqDx2\\_Rk0](https://youtu.be/JluqDx2_Rk0).