



City of Chelsea  
**Historical Commission**  
City Hall, 500 Broadway, Room 101,  
Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150  
Tel: (617) 466-4188 | Fax: (617) 466-4195  
Elijah Romulus: Staff

Ron Robinson, Chairman  
Lee Farrington  
Fran Mascolo  
George Ostler  
Bobby Pereira  
Alison Sheppard  
Chris Swistro

**CHELSEA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, February 6, 2018**

**I. Call to Order**

The Chelsea Historical Commission was called to order by the Chair, Ronald Robinson, at 6:30 on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, in room 101 of City Hall, 500 Broadway, with the following members in attendance: Ron Robinson, Lee Farrington, Fran Mascolo, Bobby Pereira, Alison Sheppard, Chris Swistro.

Also present: Elijah Romulus, Planner/Land Use Administrator, Karl Allen, Economic Development Planner.

**II. Approval of Minutes of January 2, 2018**

On a motion made by Ron Robinson and seconded by Alison Sheppard it was voted unanimously (6-0-0) to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2017 meeting.

**III. Garden Cemetery Updates**

Karl Allen presented his updates to the Historical Commission, there was an updated cemetery layout and making sure there are ADA accessible paths throughout. The Soldier's lot and the retaining wall are the short term goals for the cemetery with an event slated to be held there on Memorial Day this year. Long term goals include new paths, repairs and replacement of fencing, repairing the civil war markers, among other things.

**IV. Chelsea Prospers Grantee Prof. Ellen Rovner's Project Presentation**

Ellen's family came in the late 19th century with strong historical ties to Chelsea. She did doctoral research which led her in the path of what could be considered a culinary anthropologist. She currently sits on the board at Temple Emmanuel and Chelsea Collaborative. There have been efforts to connect the Latino and Jewish communities with the Latino-Jewish Roundtable. With the Latino-Jewish Roundtable she was a co-leader of a tour by bus and a recent walking tour with high school students. Interested in the history of the city and connecting it to the present day history as an immigrant gateway city. Did a survey with Central Latino about what it means to be "home".

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Needs some leads on her research. Boston has a lot of travelers that seek cultural tours throughout Chelsea. Arlington had many storefronts in the past, an economic hub. Owned by Jewish immigrants. Everett ave and Arlington street. Website will be up with social media platform. Elijah will forward information to the group.

**V. Historic Plaque for newly constructed Clark Ave School Presentation**

Clark Ave School Presentation. Plaque has original school pictures found through archives and George published material in the Chelsea Record. New History public Schools curriculum will cover local history open for comment.

**VI. Mission of the Historical Commission**

It's now 7:20, people that want to make a presentation, Limit presentation. Deadline for submittals similar to the ZBA and PB. Preservation, providing resources, determination of projects, education in transient community.

Part of our plan will have a fund for people with historically recognized homes and structures. A repository for people interested. May need to be deed restricted. At risk Properties? School projects on historical inventories. Cultural Asset Survey.

Commission discussed differences of opinion on their mission, mainly focusing more on preservation or community outreach/education or both.

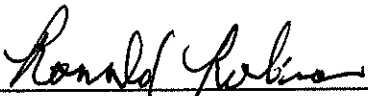
**VII. Review of Demolition Delay Memo and presentation of draft bylaw**

Elijah has been working on a draft bylaw and has looked at demolition delay ordinances in the surrounding community such as Cambridge as well as guidelines from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. He'll be finishing up the draft bylaw and share with the Planning and Law Departments for comment prior to the March 6, 2018 meeting. At which point he will distribute the bylaw at said meeting and wait for the commission to review and vote on it at the April 6 meeting with any proposed changes.

**VIII. Adjournment**

On a motion by Ronald Robinson and seconded by Fran Mascolo, it was voted unanimously (6-0-0) to adjourn. Adjournment was at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Chair

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