

Historic Hallowell Committee

Draft Minutes to Meeting

October 27, 2016 Hubbard Library

Next Meeting November 19, 2016 10AM Hubbard Free Library

Attending: Jane Radcliffe, Kate Tremblay, Sam Webber, Sandy Stubbs, Bob McIntire

1. Review Minutes from last meeting
2. Intros and Updates –

Jane – Citizens Initiative Committee Art Auction and Sale Nov 26, 2016

Kate – Vaughan Woods & Historic Homestead has a public art tour Saturday, November 5th and a special program “The Vaughan Conversation Piece” Conserving a 1754 Portrait Wednesday, November 16 from 6 to 8PM. Reservations are required for both events and can be made online at www.vaughanhomestead.org Also a crew will raise the timber frame for the shelter at the Homestead on Saturday November 5th beginning at 8AM.

3. New Business

Vaughan Field Sign – Kate explained that there is interest in having a sign at the Vaughan Field and wondered if it could be added to the Museum in the Streets exhibit? The requirements for the Museum in the Streets signs are pretty specific. Bob will provide the details. The actual fabrication of the signs is by Folia <http://environnementsimmersifs.sh/en/processes/fofia-custom-high-pressure-laminate/> The signs are very durable, completely weather proof and feature a UV shielding layer that greatly reduces fading.

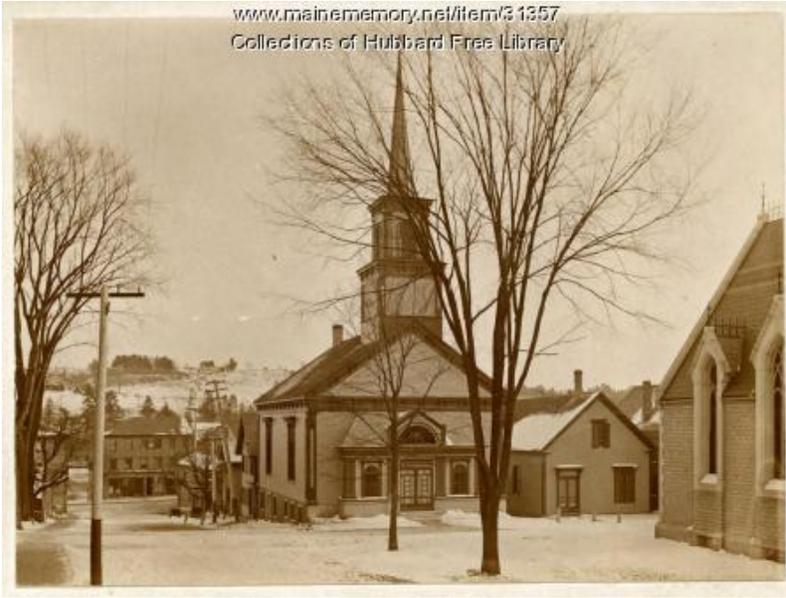
The Vaughan Field group is going to the City’s Property Committee to get permission to install a sign. This Historic Hallowell Committee is anxious to assist in any way possible. One suggestion was to meet with the group and describe the editorial development of the Museum in the Streets signs and review the requirements. Kate will check back with the Vaughan Field group.

Rialto Theater – Pam Perry is interested in learning about their building directly across from the library when it was a theater. Committee members thought that reaching out to the community would be a great idea. People could be invited to share their memories of the Rialto. Perhaps someone has photographs hidden away they could share. The conversations could be recorded and edited into an oral history project and added to the perhaps added to the website Historic Hallowell website site or a related site.

In a later conversation Chris Cart agreed to do some sketches based on descriptions.

Sam noted there were several photos of the building in the Hubbard collection some of which have been uploaded to the Maine Memory Network.

<https://www.mainememory.net/artifact/31357/enlarge>



From Maine Memory Network entry

The Universalist Church was built on the southeast corner of Central and Second Streets in 1843. The front steps extended from side to side and were said to be an imitation of Pilate's house in Jerusalem. Half of the basement was rented to a butcher. Old-timers remembered that the butcher cooked on Sundays and the appetites of the faithful were whetted during long sermons. The parish was active for about fifty years. The church was sold in the late 1930s and became the Rialto movie theater. It later became a warehouse and fell into disrepair.

Sam said that admission to the Saturday Matinée was 12 cents and the evening show cost a quarter.

Follow up notes – Gerry Mahoney shared a clipping from Arthur Moore's scrapbooks. A PDF is attached. There was also a note from the KJ from November 1938 indicating that William B. Williamson, manager of the Augusta Theater Co., indicating the conversion to a theater was backed by the Maine-New Hampshire Theater Company. The building will be renovated into a 300-seat theater.

Cary Colwell reported that she has a set of three seats from the theater.

Pam Perry will be speaking with her parents and in-laws to see if they can identify others who may have attended events.

Next meeting 10AM Saturday November 19 at the Hubbard Free Library in hopes that committee members unable to attend the late afternoon meetings can join.

- Agenda Items
- Updates
- Fire Station
- Websites
- Vaughan Field Sign
- Rialto Project