

**CITY OF NORWALK  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2025, 7:00 PM  
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

**ATTENDEES :** Dana Laird, Mark Jackson, Liz Golden, Diane Jellerette, Rich Stein, David Westmoreland, Lisa Wilson Grant, Susan Gilgore.

**STAFF:** Michelle Andrzejewski.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Laird called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Ms. Laird called the roll and noted the presence of a quorum.

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**A. Regular Meeting: October 22, 2025**

Ms. Laird presented corrections to the October 22, 2025 minutes, including changing Mark Albertson to Mark Alberson, correcting the spelling of “which” on page 1, noting that Diane Cece mentioned 16 Connor Street which does not exist in Norwalk, correcting the spelling of Ed Eckert to E-C-K-E-R-T, clarifying that Ms. Lordon should be Ms. Morin, correcting a reference to a displaced monument cap near the Rootstone Expressia, correcting the reference to Kellogg Comstock and removing the statement that Ms. Laird drives by several times a week and noticed a displaced flag, and confirming that Guardian is the correct name of the facilities group. No additional corrections were offered.

**\*\*MR. JACKSON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.**

**\*\*MR. STEIN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\*THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation.

**V. REPORTS FROM BOARDS**

**A. Norwalk Historical Society; Diane Jellerette**

Ms. Jellerette reported that the Society held two successful lectures: Vampires in Connecticut with Dr. Nick Balantoni and The Malicious History and Evolution into the National Guard presented by Mark Alberson, both with strong attendance and engaged audiences. She invited everyone to the holiday open house and 10th anniversary celebration of the Norwalk Historical Society

Museum on Sunday, December 7 from 1 to 4 PM, featuring new exhibits including WPA Treasures of Norwalk and historic needlework, along with libations and music. She stated that the Society is participating in America 250 planning with the city and other organizations, with ideas including parades, tours, and scavenger hunts. She reported that new security systems are installed and operational at both Mill Hill and the Museum, with gratitude to the city for the upgrades.

#### **B. Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum; Susie Gilgore**

Ms. Gilgore reported continued strong attendance since the grand reopening with several thousand visitors and nearly \$50,000 raised from tours alone. She stated that the gala and art exhibit opening in collaboration with Westport Artist Collective were successful, and the Bulls of Wall Street exhibit continues to attract visitors, including the CFO from Historic Williamsburg who praised it. She announced upcoming events: a talk by Alice Cooney on Tiffany this Sunday at 2 PM with refreshments; Enchanting Lights and Toys exhibition opening November 28 and running through January 18; a talk by Ulysses Grant Dietz on Gilded Age jewelry on December 6 at 2 PM with a jewelry sale; Broadway at the Mansion concert fundraiser on December 11 featuring Reisa Catona Bennett; and Santa Claus with Doug Hempstead followed by Nutcracker excerpts on December 14 at noon. Mr. Stein asked how long the Bulls of Wall Street exhibit would continue, and Ms. Gilgore replied through February 4.

### **VI. REPORTS**

#### **A. Buildings**

Mr. Westmoreland reported that the heating system at Mill Hill failed and is very cold in the townhouse, that parts were ordered at a cost of approximately \$1,000, and that repairs should be completed this week.

#### **B. Cemeteries**

Mr. Westmoreland reported that he and Ms. Laird sprayed all tombstones at Brookside Cemetery with D2 and that the stones should start looking better soon in preparation for the 250th anniversary.

#### **C. Financials**

Mr. Westmoreland reported that he had not yet received the financial report but would forward it once available. He noted that he is working to complete the capital budget and that the expense budget generally follows the Finance Department's recommendation for a flat budget, with the exception of an increase to cover electrical utilities for the mansion. He stated that the top capital priority is the replacement of the conservatory, estimated at approximately \$1.75 million due to severely deteriorated structural beams. He added that \$100,000 is being requested for stone restoration at Pine Island and that additional funding may be necessary for the jail and museum basement projects, as costs are expected to exceed current estimates.

### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Historical Commission 2026 Meeting Schedule**

Ms. Andrzejewski presented the proposed 2026 meeting schedule with the same regular time and adjustments around holidays and no meeting in August. Mr. Stein noted he might miss the February meeting. Mr. Jackson stated he would miss December and January meetings due to

wrestling and that February is to be determined. Ms. Andrzejewski confirmed a quorum would exist for December.

**\*\*MR. JACKSON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE.  
\*\*MR. STEIN SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\*THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Stein noted that the demolition delay ordinance update would be presented at the next meeting. Ms. Andrzejewski confirmed that the December 10 meeting would be designated for public comment on the demolition delay ordinance as previously discussed, and Ms. Laird and Mr. Stein agreed.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\*MR. STEIN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.  
\*\*MS. GOLDEN SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\*THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned around 7:21 PM.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

A. December 10, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,  
Courtney Baldwin  
Recording Secretary