



David B. Cohen
Mayor

CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Newton Historical Commission

Donald Lang, Chair
David Morton, Secretary

Telephone
(617)-796-1120

Telefax
(617) 796-1142

TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089

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Community Preservation Committee
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

Dear Committee Members,

The Newton Historical Commission offers its support of the City Clerk's application for CPA funds to preserve a piece of City artwork. The Commission recognizes the historic importance of the portrait of James Hyde and encourages your committee to fund its preservation.

The portrait of the City's first Mayor, James Hyde, should be preserved, if for no other reason than, because he was the first Mayor and a significant person in Newton's history. Hyde helped create the modern City government of today. The painting's artist, Newton resident Nahum Onthank was a prominent Boston portrait painter in the 1800's whose work is also displayed at Harvard University. The Commission hopes that after restoration, the portrait of Mayor Hyde will be publicly displayed for all to enjoy.

The preservation of these kinds of artifacts with their historical ties to the City of Newton is at the very core of our Commission's existence. We offer our support to the City Clerk's application to and hope that your committee will approve the application.

David Morton, Secretary

CC. David Olson

Newton Historical Commission
1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts 02459
Email: blever@newtonma.gov
www.ci.newton.ma.us